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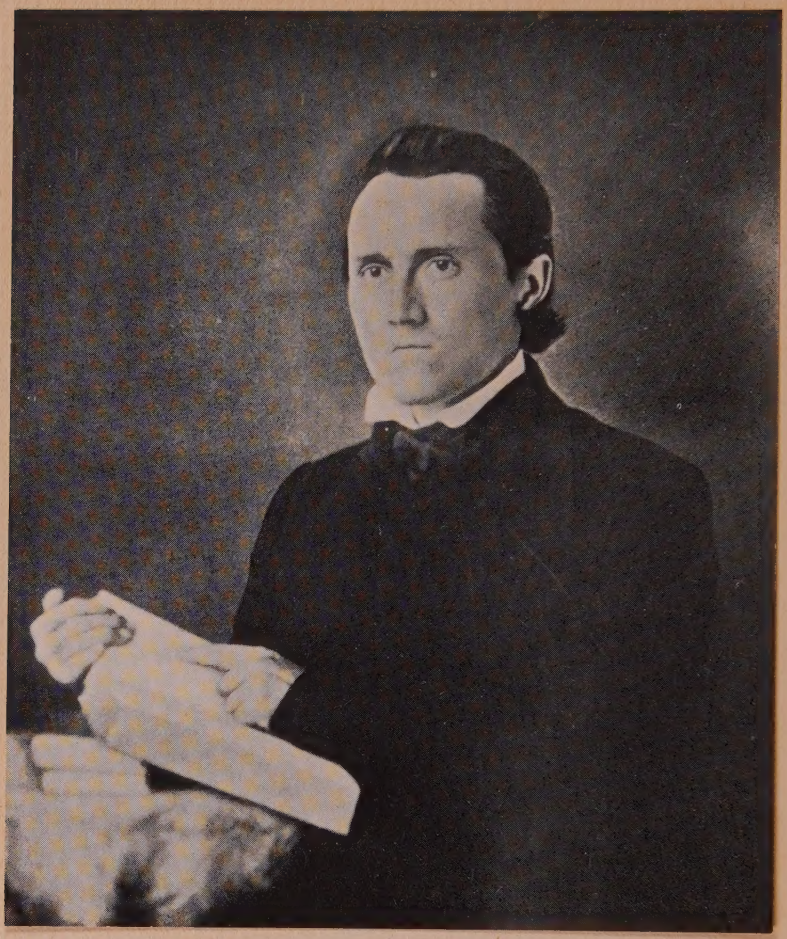
JOTHAM MEEKER

PIONEER PRINTER OF KANSAS



JOTHAM MEEKER

From the portrait in the collection of
the Kansas State Historical Society

Jotham Meeker

Pioneer Printer of Kansas

With a bibliography of the known issues of the Baptist Mission Press at Shawanoe, Stockbridge, and Ottawa, 1834-1854

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BY

Douglas C. McMurtrie

AND

Albert H. Allen

CHICAGO
EYNCOURT PRESS
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Introduction

THE moving human record set forth in this volume is of real importance as the biography of an American pioneer who encountered obstacles and difficulties apparently insurmountable, and yet overcame them. Such records are an inspiration to Americans of a later generation, whose lives are led under easier conditions—made easier by the vision, the courage, and the perseverance of the pioneers who blazed the trail and brought to uninhabited lands the benefits of civilization which we now enjoy.

But this record has another and greater importance, for it provides a detailed and accurate account of the first printing in what is now the state of Kansas. The first coming of the press is an event of moment in the cultural history of any state, and is also, in fact, an event of almost as great importance in its political and economic history. We need seek no excuse, therefore, for careful inquiry into the circumstances attending the birth of the typographic art in Kansas.

In few instances, however, do we have available contemporary evidence of these beginnings as satisfactory as that which we find in the personal journal of Jotham Meeker, of which the portions that relate to his printing are here published for the first time.

On the basis of the information developed in the present volume, we are able to state with certainty not only the year in which took place the first printing in the state of Kansas, but the month and the day as well. We can also establish with certainty the title of the first Kansas book or pamphlet imprint, a matter of considerable interest to bibliographers and typographic historians.

The existence of the Meeker journal became known to me four or five years ago, when I undertook a preliminary survey of available source material on the history of printing in America. At that time I endeavored by correspondence to obtain from this journal the essential data bearing on the first printing in Kansas, but without success. I kept the document constantly in mind, however, as I undertook intensive studies of the *initiae typographicae* in one state after another, and aspired to bring to light, at some opportune time, the materal therein contained.

This opportunity came recently when I and my associate, Mr. Albert H. Allen, found ourselves, in the course of a business trip, in the city of Topeka, the home of the Kansas State Historical Society, in whose collection the original of the Meeker journal is preserved. On that occasion, and on another later trip especially undertaken for the purpose, Mr. Allen transcribed from the manuscript the passages which are herein published.

The journal provided clues to many issues of the Baptist Mission Press. Inquiry was then initiated among institutions likely to have in their collections

any imprints of this press, and all imprints found through this search were described bibliographically according to the method followed in my studies of early printing in other states—Louisiana, New York, Wisconsin, New Mexico—and in individual communities such as Chicago and Peoria. The location of all known copies is indicated, following my usual practice, and title pages of the more important publications are shown in facsimile.

Publications of the Baptist Mission Press which as yet have not been located, either in libraries or in private collections, are included in the list, with such bibliographical information as can be derived from the Meeker journal and from his reports on printing to the Baptist missionary headquarters. Such was Meeker's care in making record of details that in the lack of all other sources, quite satisfactory descriptions of many of his publications can be made from his journal and his reports to the Board of Missions.

The task of locating existing copies of these imprints was made infinitely easier than usual by the masterly work done by James Constantine Pilling, two score years ago, in his bibliographies of Indian languages. Although his work was done with a different interest in view, it proves of great value in the study of early printing in a number of middle western states.

The bibliography here presented possesses a quite unusual feature in that the size of the edition is definitely stated for a large number of the imprints. It is rare indeed to find in the records of a pioneer press the information which makes it possible to say with

precision the number of copies printed of its several issues. The Meeker records, however, are exceptionally satisfying in this particular.

Our first acknowledgement for assistance is due to Mr. William E. Connelley, secretary of the Kansas State Historical Society, who courteously placed at our disposal the original of the Meeker journal, extended generous permission to photograph the pages of early imprints, and otherwise rendered every possible assistance in the prosecution of this study. We also extend our appreciation to Miss Helen M. McFarland, librarian of the same institution, and through her to the members of her staff, for making accessible much material in the collection under her care.

To libraries throughout the country our indebtedness for assistance is, as usual, extensive. First must be named the Boston Athenaeum, which has in its possession a remarkable collection of imprints of Indian mission presses. Miss Eleanor Gregory, reference librarian of that institution, has kindly furnished much information regarding a number of items in the bibliography. The New York Public Library, through Messrs. H. M. Lydenberg and L. Nelson Nichols, and the Henry E. Huntington Library, through Mr. Leslie E. Bliss, have been similarly helpful.

Personally, I wish to assign a large share of credit for the subject matter of this volume to my co-author. While the plan of the essay and the technique of its execution may be said to be mine, most of the painstaking work involved in bringing it to completion is his. Mr. Allen developed, during his preparation of the

manuscript, so enthusiastic an admiration for the printer-missionary subject of our study, that he would spare no effort to make this record of his printing activities revealing and authoritative.

My own hope is that this volume may constitute one more contribution, though a modest one, to our knowledge, based on contemporary documentary sources, of the history of printing in the United States.

DOUGLAS C. MCMURTRIE

Chicago, February 15, 1930.

I. The Printer-Missionary

By an Act of Congress of May 26, 1830, a vast but indefinite area of the domain of the United States, some six hundred miles from north to south and two hundred miles in width, was set apart as Indian Territory with the understanding at the time that it was to be the permanent home of the Indians. This territory lay west of the Territory of Arkansas and of the ten-year-old State of Missouri and extended northward to the Platte and Missouri rivers. Except along its more prominent river courses, its enormous area was uninhabited and practically unknown.

Towards this new Indian Territory there had already begun, in 1831, one of the most pathetic migrations in history—of numerous tribes of Indians moving from the states and territories east of the Mississippi, where their presence was unwelcome, into an unknown land. With these uprooted natives there went a number of Christian missionaries, of several denominations, who had been the teachers of the Indians, and often their only friends, in the lands they were now forced to leave.

Among these missionaries was a young man whose orderly mind expressed itself in a careful day-by-day entry in a journal of happenings both significant and

unsignificant. This journal, preserved as one of the treasures of the Kansas State Historical Society, at Topeka, ran without interruption from September 10, 1832, to January 4, 1855, covering almost a quarter of a century in a time of swiftly moving events.

Significant as this journal is as a vivid portrayal of one man's part in the epic of the Winning of the West, it has an additional claim upon the attention of historians of cultural progress in that it contains a detailed narrative of the establishment of the first printing press on one of our frontiers of civilization. For the man who wrote it was a printer as well as a missionary. And of all our pioneer printers, none has left to us a more complete and detailed account of his activities.

Jotham Meeker was the name of this printer-missionary. He was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, November 8, 1804, a little over a year after the Louisiana Purchase had added to the United States the far western territory in which he was to spend most of his active life. The little town of Cincinnati was then sixteen years old and still a truly pioneer community. In Cincinnati, Meeker received his training as a printer, but at what age and in whose office we do not know.[1] He made several unsuccessful efforts as a boy

[1]Two printing concerns in particular were identified with Cincinnati during the period 1820-1825, the years in which Meeker probably received his training. These were Looker, Reynolds & Co. (later Looker, Palmer & Reynolds, and Looker and Reynolds) and Morgan, Lodge & Co. (later Morgan and Lodge, and Morgan, Lodge and Fisher). Other Cincinnati printers, known from imprints of the time, were Mason & Palmer (the *Western Spy* office, 1819), Oliver Farnsworth (1819-1822), Stephen Curcier (1821), M. Ruter (1822), Harrison's Press (1822), Abbott Goddard (1823), and Samuel J. Browne (1825). Meeker himself did not become a master printer at Cincinnati.

and youth to get a more formal education, but in the end had to matriculate in the school of experience, from which, like all men, he never was graduated.

In the summer of 1825, when the young printer was in his twenty-first year, the course of Meeker's life was abruptly changed at a church meeting in Cincinnati which was addressed by Robert Simerwell, a Baptist missionary to the Indians in the wilds of Michigan. Meeker resolved to become a missionary. A few months later he was on his way northward, and on November 24, 1825, just after his twenty-first birthday, he arrived at the Carey Mission Station, at the end of a strenuous journey of about 275 miles.

Meeker's new post of duty was among the Potawatomie Indians on the St. Joseph River, near the southern boundary of what is now Michigan and about one hundred miles from Fort Wayne, which was the mission's nearest outpost of civilization. The head of the mission and its organizer was Isaac McCoy, a Baptist minister, a man of indefatigable energy, a staunch friend and champion of the Indians in all their difficulties, and the historian of the Baptist missions among them.[2] Other missionaries at the Carey Station were Robert Simerwell, who was also the government blacksmith there, and Johnston Lykins. Here Meeker became a school teacher for the Indians and also devoted much of his time to learning their language.

[2]Isaac McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions;* Washington, New York, and Utica, 1840. The *History* is somewhat overburdened with detail, but is an excellent and readable record of the Baptist missionaries and their labors. Incidentally, it contains much information about Meeker and his activities as a printer and otherwise.

In August, 1827, Meeker left the Carey Station to become the superintendent of the newly established Thomas Station, among the Ottawas. This was a still more distant post, on the Grand River, a hundred and twenty miles northward from Carey and two hundred miles from Detroit. To his other responsibilities at the Thomas Station, Meeker added those of a preacher of the Gospel, under the authorization of the Baptist congregation at Carey.[3] As the language of the Ottawas differed but slightly from the Potawatomie language which he had been learning at Carey, Meeker soon mastered enough of it to enable him to speak to his native charges in their own tongue. This greatly pleased the Indians, who formally conferred on their young teacher the name Mano-keke-toh, "He-that-speaks-good-words." Meeker was successful in winning the good will and confidence of most of his native charges, though he was sorely troubled at times by their disposition to lapse into evil ways.

In September, 1830, at Cincinnati, Meeker married Eleanor Richardson, who had also been a missionary at Thomas. The following year, having now a wife and also his mother to support, he retired from mis-

[3]The original license to preach is among the Meeker papers preserved in the collections of the Kansas State Historical Society. It reads as follows:

The Baptist Putawatomu Mission Church
Carey, Michigan Territory

To all whom it may concern

This Certifies that Jotham Meeker one of our number is hereby Licensed to preach the Gospel of Christ among the Indians of Grand River or wherever God may direct his way.

By order of the Church
Isaac McCoy
Moderator

August 19, 1827
G. Lykins, C'lk

sionary labors and went back to work as a printer. But Isaac McCoy, who had gone out to Arkansas Territory for work in behalf of the Cherokees there, sent an urgent call for him, and in mid-December, 1831, Meeker had rejoined his former superior in the Cherokee country on the Arkansas River. The plan, as McCoy explains in his *History*,[4] was that Meeker should have the direction of a printing plant which McCoy was to procure and that a periodical devoted to the interests of the Indians should be published. But Meeker did not fall in with this plan, and at that time nothing came of the project to establish a Baptist mission press in the Cherokee country.

After his return to Cincinnati, however, Meeker was prevailed upon to return to the missionary field among the Indians in Michigan, with whom he could converse. In the summer of 1832 he set out, with Mrs. Meeker, for his new station, which was a mission among the Ojibwas, or Chippewas, at Sault Ste. Marie. At Detroit the Meekers joined Rev. and Mrs. Moses Merrill, Baptist missionaries from Maine, who were bound for the same destination.

It was at Sault Ste. Marie, not long after his arrival there, that Meeker began the writing of his journal, in which he faithfully made an entry of some kind every day until a week before his death, over twenty-two years later. It was at Sault Ste. Marie, also, that he first began his experiments in devising for the Indian languages an orthography which might be written or printed with the ordinary characters of our

[4] *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, pp. 429-430.

alphabet. The Ojibwa language was virtually the same as those of the Potawatomies and Ottawas with which he was already quite familiar, and it was in Ojibwa, therefore, that he first wrote by his "new system."

When Meeker visited McCoy among the Cherokees in 1831, he could not have failed to learn of the alphabet, or rather syllabary, devised for the Cherokee language ten years before by Se-quo-yah, also known as George Guess, a half-breed Cherokee who knew no English. As a practical printer, Meeker also could not have failed to note the many difficulties involved in the use of this syllabary, in the procuring of fonts of type, and in the writing and typesetting of printers' "copy." It occured to him that the characters to be found in the ordinary fonts of the English alphabet could be used for representing the sounds of the Indian languages by assigning some of the characters to arbitrary uses. On this plan it was that he devised his system of "writing Indian." The Meeker system of Indian orthography is described more fully below.

The migrations of the aborigines to the new Indian Territory were already well under way at the time that Meeker arrived at Sault Ste. Marie. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that in the spring of 1833 he received instructions from the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, at Boston, to abandon the mission on Lake Superior and proceed immediately to a new location in the Indian Territory. At the same time, doubtless through the efforts of Isaac McCoy, who seemed determined to have a press at his disposal for purposes of propaganda in favor of the Indians, it was

arranged that Meeker should take with him a printing outfit. During the summer of 1833, therefore, Meeker went to Boston for a conference with his superiors, returning to Cincinnati in September to get his equipment together. In the journal, there are just two terse entries, on September 6th and 7th, about this equipment. We do not know of what it consisted.[5] By September 11 it was packed and Meeker was on his way by river steamer to his new home in the west.

Jotham Meeker arrived at Independence, Missouri, on October 2nd, after a three weeks' journey. A few miles further, and he was over the frontier, beyond the western boundary of Missouri. At the Shawanoe mission station he found the crude beginnings of a settlement. Three or four years before, the Methodists of Missouri had sent Rev. Thomas Johnson thither as a missionary to the Shawnees. He had made the beginnings of a school for the Indians. At the Baptist mission, Alexander Evans, from Indiana, had arrived in the summer of 1832. Johnston Lykins and Moses Merrill preceded Meeker from Michigan by a few months, and Ira D. Blanchard, who became a Baptist in April, 1833, had gone some time before among the Delawares on a volunteer mission of his own. Robert Simerwell arrived from Michigan soon after Meeker, and Merrill left almost immediately for a station

[5]The extent of the printing equipment can be judged from the amount paid for it, as noted in the report of the treasurer to the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions at the annual meeting, New York April 30, 1834: "Aug. 6 [1833]. Paid J. Meeker's draft, to purchase a press, &c. to be accounted for, $550." (*American Baptist Magazine*, Vol. 14, No. 6, June, 1834, p. 238.) It was a second-hand press that Meeker bought, one that had already seen many years of service. For a description of it, see page 42, below.

among the Otoes, two hundred miles away. And Isaac McCoy, of course, was also on the ground, getting under way with his devoted work of championing the rights and interests of all the Indians throughout the immense new territory.

Here Meeker's real life work began. The outlines of his long and active career are but inadequately sketched in our extracts from his journal, restricted as these are to his history as a printer. But enough is told to hint of the many vicissitudes that marked his years and of the many tasks, other than printing, that he took into his competent, conscientious care. And there is just the slightest glimpse, too, in our much condensed recital, of the faithful, patient wife who went with Meeker into the wilderness, bore three children there, endured the hardships and dangers of a rude frontier life, and for a few years survived her husband.

This chapter may well close with an obituary notice which was published shortly after the death of the printer-missionary:[6]

Rev. Jotham Meeker died on the 12th of January last, after a week's illness. His health had been gradually declining during several years, and he was unable the last year to visit the people to an extent adequate to their needs. . . . He often expressed the apprehension that his work was drawing to a close. On the third day of his fatal illness, he gave his last directions respecting his temporal concerns, and desired to be buried in the native cemetery connected with their house of worship, about twenty feet "in the rear of the pulpit where" he had "so long endeavored to preach the gos-

[6] *Missionary Magazine*, published by the American Baptist Missionary Union, Vol. 35, 1855, pp. 123-124 and 332-335.

pel to the forsaken Indians." As his end approached, he took leave of his family and the Indian brethren that were with him, offered a prayer expressive of fervent gratitude for the goodness he had experienced, and continued praying until his voice failed; when he resigned himself to the divine appointment, and passed away in perfect tranquility.

. . . [Mr. Meeker] spoke the Ottawa language fluently, and used it in preaching and in his intercourse with the people. He was assiduous in his labors, observed a rigid economy of time, and gave his whole available strength to the interests of his people. . . . But while cherishing earnest desires first of all for their spiritual welfare, he was also alive to their temporal interests, promoting temperance, industry, and all valuable improvements, in which he had the happiness of seeing, especially in recent years, a steady progress. His probity and his interested concern for them won the most confiding affection of the people. They looked up to him as a father, and consulted him on all national concerns; and so single was their trust in him, that they would not receive their money from the government till he had first counted it. It need hardly be said that they sorrow greatly at his loss. "Another Mr. Meeker," they say, "they never will see."

Mr. Meeker was preeminently a good man. As a missionary, he was faithful to the demands of his great work and to the Master who called him to engage in it. For nearly thirty years, he has pursued his self-denying toils, patient under privation, meek in the face of opposition, persevering, firm, and even cheerful under handicaps and trials, and hopeful under discouragement. . . .

. . . A few words in the Ottawa language, a fervent prayer, the clasping of the hands, and a sweet smile overspreading the face, were to him the last of earth. . . . He is interred in the native cemetery.

II. The Meeker Orthography

At Sault Ste. Marie, after several years of missionary work among the Indians of Michigan, Jotham Meeker took upon himself the task of finding a solution for the problem of teaching Indians their letters, that they might read as well as hear the words of instruction. The difficulty was twofold—first, to reduce the natives' language to writing, and second, to teach the "untutored mind" of the savages to read it.

Meeker must have known something of the various efforts made to "write Indian." In 1831, when he was with Isaac McCoy for a short time in the new Cherokee country on the Arkansas River, he must have seen something of the syllabic alphabet, of 86 characters, in which the Cherokee language was already being extensively printed. And he had undoubtedly seen some of the books printed in the Ojibwa language in English characters, while he was among the Ottawas and Potawatomies and studying their speech. It would have been strange indeed if he had not realized that writing an Indian language was difficult. A cumbersome system of phonetic symbols, of arbitrary form, was hard to handle, and however suitable it might be found for one language, it could not be easily adapted for use with others. And the established alphabet used

in writing the English language did not fit the Indian languages at all.

In the second place, teaching an Indian to read was difficult enough in itself without having to encounter also the complexities of an extensive alphabet and the "spelling out" of syllables. The Indian lacked the incentive, to say nothing of the tenacity and patience, to submit to any such fatiguing instruction. Only exceptional individuals were learning to read. Somehow, the process must be simplified.

It was to simplification that Meeker addressed himself when, on November 9, 1832, at the age of twenty-eight, he commenced "examining the practicability of forming a new Indian orthography." A month later he put his new system to the test and began to teach two Indian boys to read. His own testimony is that the test was a success—after a few days' instruction, the two young Ojibwas could read!

The essence of Meeker's system was the use of written—or printed—characters, not to "spell" syllables, but to represent certain positions of the organs of speech. This idea seems to have been entirely original with Meeker and was evolved, apparently, out of experiments with the syllabic system (of representing syllables by single characters) and the system of spelling syllables by combinations of two or more letters.

Meeker's missionary associates seem to have thought well of the "new system," and put it to use, with results that were to them highly satisfactory. They testify quite uniformly that Indians under instruction, even adults, learned to read in a surprisingly short

time. It does not appear, however, that any large number of Indians permitted themselves to be taught or that the ability to read became at all general among even the best instructed of the Indian tribes.

A good description of the orthographic system which Meeker devised, and which was used for all the books printed in Indian languages by the Baptist mission press at Shawanoe, is found in the *History* of Isaac McCoy, who was a zealous advocate of the "new system." He wrote:[1]

> Upon the new system, every uncompounded sound which can be distinguished by the ear is indicated by a character. These sounds, in Indian languages, usually amount to about eight or ten, the greater part of which, but not all, are what in the system of spelling would be denominated vowel sounds; other sounds are such, for instance, as the hissing sound of the letter *s*, in which consists its real value, the sound obtained by *ch*, as in church, &c. . . .
>
> Hence, as soon as the learner acquires a knowledge of the uses of the characters, more than twenty-three of which have not yet been found necessary in writing any Indian language, he is capable of reading; because, by placing the organs of speech, or uttering a sound, as is indicated by each character as it occurs, *he is actually reading*. . . .
>
> For characters the English types are used, because they answer as well as characters of any other shape, and by so doing the expense of making new types is avoided; and further, because the English scholar can more easily learn to read with these than with newly invented characters. If a *key* of about twenty lines accompany a book in an Indian language, explaining the uses of the characters, an English scholar will be enabled to read, understandingly, to those

[1] *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, pp. 471-475.

acquainted with the language, whether he understands it or not; and he can, without any knowledge of the language himself, teach others to read it. . . .

. . . Many of the Shawanoes, and others near them, have learned to read without any regular instruction from any their people who could read, and from them have received one. They have occasionally fallen in company with some of their people who could read, and from them have received some instruction relative to the uses of the characters, and soon became readers themselves. . . . The missionary who would accompany a band of Indians on a buffalo hunt of three months, for the sake of improving himself in a knowledge of their language, could carry with him his tracts, and teach scores to read them, as they would be occasionally resting in their encampments.

It would seem that a system of orthography claiming so many advantages in the representation of Indian languages should have found wide-spread favor among those interested in printing Indian books. Such was not the case. McCoy deplores the opposition of the Presbyterian and the Methodist missionaries to the use of the "new system," and intimates that jealousy had something to do with their disfavor. He wrote, in this connection, as follows:[2]

Pretty soon after we had issued a few prints upon the new system, from the press at the Shawanoe mission house, two influential Presbyterian missionaries from among the Choctaws visited us. They had published a few books in the Choctaw language, written upon the principles of orthography. Peculiar sounds could not be obtained by the use of the English, or any other alphabet, and to remedy this evil they had invented new characters, and procured new types to print them. The superiority of our cheap, and expeditious,

[2]McCoy, *op. cit.*, p. 476.

and *correct* system, over their worse than old-fashioned plan, was so obvious to us, that we hoped for their ready and hearty cooperation in introducing it into common use in the Indian country. In this we were grievously disappointed; and to add to our mortification, they zealously urged us to reject our system as futile. No reason, however, was offered, only that they had written a little in Choctaw, and all our prints ought to be uniform.[3]

The Methodist missionaries at Shawanoe used the new system in a few small books and tracts printed for them on the Baptist press, but this, said McCoy, "they had not done so much from inclination, as from the necessity of gratifying a popular desire of the Shawanoes." The natives, apparently, demanded from the Methodists the same sort of intellectual nourishment that they were receiving from the Baptists.

Ingenious as was Meeker's "system," and highly creditable to the resourcefulness of the young printer, it had obvious defects and disadvantages as a general system for use with all Indian languages. However, so far as the purposes of the Shawanoe mission press were concerned, it seems to have worked so that the missionaries could actually read to their Indian charges, even if they did not succeed in teaching very many Indians to read for themselves.

There are added here a few of the "keys" published in the books which Meeker printed. It will be seen that the assignments of the English characters to different phonetic duties are rather arbitrary. Thus, in Shawanoe, *b* is a consonant, standing for *th* as in *thin;* in Potawatomie it is used as in English; in Delaware it

[3]See also the note on No. 38 in the Bibliography.

represents the vowel sound of *u* in *tube;* and so on. Needless to say, the characters as used sometimes present to the uninstructed eye a jumble of utterly unpronounceable combinations. A little study of the appropriate "key," however, will reduce these combinations (in some of the titles in the Bibliography, for example) to more or less utterable syllables.

Keys to Some of the Meeker Orthographies

Shawanoe

a a in mane
i a in far
e e in me
o o in no
w o in move

b th in thin
c ch in church
h, k, l, m, n, p, s, t, as in English

Potawatomie

a a in far
e e in me
r e in met
i i in pin
o o in note
u u in tub
y i in pine
w o in move

g (hard)
h ch in church
l sh in shoe
b, d, k, m, n, p, s, t, as in English

Ottawa

a a in far
r e in met
e e in me
i i in pin
o o in note
u u in tub

h ch in church
l sh in sheep
f ng in finger
k, m, n, p, s, t, w, as in English

Delaware

a a in far
r a in fate
e e in me
c e in met
y i in pine
i i in pin
o o in note
w o in move
u u in tub
b u in tube

f ng in linger
h ch in church
j sh in she
v h in he
x a Delaware guttural
k, l, m, n, p, q, s, t, as in English

III. The Baptist Mission Press

BECAUSE of the unique character of the record left to us of the work done by the Shawanoe mission press, every piece of printing mentioned in Jotham Meeker's journal has been listed in the Bibliography, although some of the items are not strictly bibliographical in nature. Thus there appear in the list a number of items such as "proposal forms," "horse bills," "traders' licenses," and other items in the nature of job printing. They are included simply as a matter of completeness in reflecting the details of the Meeker journal.

Much of Meeker's printing has doubtless disappeared beyond hope of recovery. Indeed, considering that almost the entire output of the press was intended to be placed in the hands of Indians, for their instruction, it is somewhat remarkable that so much of it has survived. What befell the copies that the Indians received can easily be imagined. The relatively few copies that finally found their way into libraries where they are now preserved came in part at least from mementos kept by the missionaries and their families; others passed through the hands of government agencies.[1] One would expect to find a considerable quantity

[1]For example, in the Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs dated November 25, 1839, is a letter to Major Joshua Pilcher, superin-

of these mission books in the archives of the denominational boards of missions. But if any were forwarded from Shawanoe to headquarters,[2] as voucher copies, so to speak, they were eventually destroyed or otherwise disposed of. At any rate, the offices of the boards of missions of the Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches of today know little or nothing about them.

All in all, the bibliography shows 51 titles of books or pamphlets issued from the Shawanoe mission press. Many of these were in paper covers, but some were in more permanent bindings. Of these, 29 titles are now

tendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, from Richard W. Cummins, Indian agent at the Fort Leavenworth Agency, who writes, "I mail with this report, for the use of the Indian department, 15,000 pages of print in the Indian language, and enclose herewith, reports from . . . persons connected with the schools within this agency." The accompanying report from Johnston Lykins, of the Shawanoe mission, transmits copies of eight books from the Shawanoe press. The "15,000 pages" indicates a considerable number of copies of each book, as single copies of the books mentioned would amount to but 440 pages.

At the same time, A. L. Davis, sub-agent at the Osage River, transmitted to Washington "duplicates of three books in Pottawatomie, and one in Ottowa, printed by the Baptists and for their use, at their printing establishment among the Shawnees, one book in Wea, printed at the same office, for the use of the Presbyterians, and one in Wea, for the use of the same, printed at the Presbyterian press among the Cherokees." The three Potawatomie books were sent to Davis with a report from Robert Simerwell, of the Baptist Potawatomie mission.

[2]The "Rules on Printing," adopted by the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions in 1837 (*Baptist Missionary Magazine,* Vol. 21, 1841, pp. 208-209) provided as follows:

"3. One copy at least of every work which shall be printed, shall be sent without delay, by the writer or translator, to the Board . . .

"6. One copy at least of every work shall be sent by the author or translator to every missionary of the Board, acquainted with the language in which it is written."

These rules were not in effect when Meeker began printing, but a number of publications of the Shawanoe press were issued after the rules were adopted.

known from copies in libraries, 24 of them being in Indian languages.

There are many books from the Shawanoe mission press, some of considerable size for such a printing establishment, of which copies are still to be discovered. Just for one example, there is the 32-page "First Book" in Creek (Number 33 in the Bibliography). One thousand copies were printed for the native preacher, John Davis, and carried back by him from Shawanoe to his mission near Fort Gibson, Arkansas. As the note under this item in the Bibliography explains, Davis encountered some difficulty in putting this book into use. Of this book, and of many others listed in the Bibliography, it is still possible, although not very probable, that copies may somewhere be found even at this late day.

Of the printing done by Meeker of which all specimens have disappeared, the most interesting is perhaps the little newspaper entitled *Siwinowe Kesibwi* (*Shauwaunowe Kesauthwau*, as McCoy gives it; in English, *Shawnee Sun*). One copy of this was presented to the Wyandotte Historical Society, of Kansas City, Kansas, by Charles Bluejacket, a Shawnee chief. It was the issue of November, 1841. A reproduction of the first page of this issue appeared in the Kansas City (Kansas) *Sun* of February 18, 1898, and copies of the reproduction are to be found in the library of the Kansas State Historical Society. But the original, which seems to have been the only copy that survived, cannot now be located.

In this connection it is interesting to note that one

winter day, December 12, 1836, Meeker bound up two volumes of "all the old Nos. of the Sun," of which eleven issues had been printed up to that time. The present location of these two files is now unknown, if indeed they survived the vicissitudes of flood and storm to which Meeker's few earthly possessions were subjected.[3]

The twenty-one years of activity of the Baptist Mission Press may be divided into four distinct periods. From the arrival of the printing equipment at Shawanoe in December, 1833, until Meeker's final departure for Ottawa in May, 1837, the "printing department" was at Shawanoe under Meeker's charge. From May, 1837, until the summer of 1846, a little over nine years, the press remained at Shawanoe, but John G. Pratt was the official printer. In the summer of 1846, the press, in charge of Pratt, was removed from Shawanoe to Stockbridge, an outstation of the Shawanoe Mission opened in 1843. Here the press remained for three years or so, but it was idle for a part of this period, for Pratt had been transferred from Stockbridge to Delaware early in 1848, when Ira Blanchard, the former missionary at Delaware, was dismissed. Finally, in 1849, after an interval of twelve years, Meeker once more took charge of the press, removing it to Ottawa. Here it was put to only occa-

[3]The issues of the *Shawnee Sun* listed in the Bibliography are by no means all that were printed, but only those of which definite records have been found. The *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, organ of the Board of Foreign Missions, mentions its continued publication up to 1844. Its appearance was doubtless somewhat irregular, and it was suspended entirely during the absence of John G. Pratt, Meeker's successor, from the Shawanoe Mission in 1839-1840.

sional use for mission purposes during the remaining years of Meeker's life.

Of the 89 items listed in the Bibliography, 57 belong to the first period, under Meeker at Shawanoe, and 10 to the last, under Meeker at Ottawa. The remaining 22 belong to the Pratt regime, and four of these are from the press when it was at Stockbridge. Meeker was considerably more active than Pratt as a printer. To be sure, Pratt suffered much from poor health and was absent from Shawanoe on sick leave for a little over a year in 1839-1840. But Meeker's journal shows that he, too, had his struggles with illness. Pratt, however, had full missionary duties, while Meeker, so long as he was at Shawanoe, did not have similar obligations, although he did much religious work in addition to his printing.

Meeker returned three times from Ottawa to Shawanoe to see to the printing of books prepared by himself. In 1838, he did most of the composition and some of the press work on his *Ottawa First Book*. In 1840, during Pratt's absence in the East, Meeker produced his first Ottawa hymn book, and again in 1845 he helped Pratt with the *Original and Select Hymns*. These occasional excursions back into the printer's life doubtless enabled Meeker to maintain his skill as a craftsman.

After Pratt had left Stockbridge for Delaware, the printing equipment must have been sadly neglected. Meeker's journal seldom records an emotion, but perhaps one may read between the lines and infer something of the feeling with which he made note of "Br.

Pratt's pi." He himself was most orderly. Noticeable in his journal is the frequency of such entries as "Clean up the office," up to the very last entry he made of any activity as a printer.

The first printing done by Meeker at Shawanoe deserves specific mention. The facts are concisely set forth in Meeker's journal. On December 28, 1833, he was unpacking the printing materials and preparing to set up the press. The missionaries at Shawanoe were impatient to see it in operation. On January 4, 1834, Meeker was opening the boxes of type and laying his cases. There was some traveling between Shawanoe and Independence for "divers kind of wood work for the printing establishment"—doubtless including printers' "furniture," reglets, and the like. Not until March 4th did Meeker receive his "various articles for the printing office." In the meantime, the first actual typesetting had been done on March 1st, when Meeker "set a page of type in order to make some calculations for Blanchard's book."

Ira D. Blanchard was the first of the missionaries to have the manuscript of an Indian book ready for the printer. It had been put in Meeker's hands on February 29th, and on March 8th a proof impression of the first form was taken. On the same day, Meeker also "printed a Shawanoe hymn for Br. Evans." Thus Alexander Evans was the first to receive a piece of finished work from the new printing establishment. Two days later Evans also received another job, "the Shawanoe alphabet and hymns."

The work for Evans was in the form of fugitive

LINAPI'E

LRKVEKUN,

APWIVULI KAVUNI VAWINJ WATO.

OPVALOQRPEAS,

NELAHI MANETO.

Jybni krkw kuski welumul nrkek Linapruk

SHAWNEE MISSION.

J. MEEKER, PRINTER.

1831.

Title page of the first book printed on the Meeker press, which was the first book printed in the Indian Territory, in what is now Kansas. See No. 4 in the Bibliography.

leaflets. Meeker, otherwise so precise as to details, does not mention the number of copies he printed. Pilling[4] says that there were fifty copies of the alphabet and hymns. Needless to say, these have wholly disappeared. Nevertheless, they served their purpose. They aroused the curiosity of the Indians, and on a "Lord's Day" not long after, Meeker rejoiced "to see that the Shawanoes wish to learn to read."

On March 12th there was another leaflet, "about 50 copies of the alphabet, ab's, etc., in Delaware for Br. B[lanchard]." Within a week, composition was begun on "Br. Evans' Shawanoe book." And then, on March 21, 1834, after three weeks of rather intensive effort, the Blanchard book was completed and duly recorded by Meeker as the first Indian book printed in the Territory, with the pious wish that the Lord might add his blessing.

This first book from the Shawanoe press (Number 4 in the Bibliography) was a primer in the Delaware language, a little pamphlet of 24 pages, about 3½ by 5¾ inches, with a printed paper cover. Meeker unaccountably neglected to mention the number of copies he printed. As there were very few Indians of the Delaware tribe then at Shawanoe, it is possible that there were printed not more than a hundred or so. Only two copies are at present on record, one in the New York Public Library and one in the library of the Boston Athenaeum. Unimpressive as it may appear to the casual observer, this little book is the cornerstone of printing in Kansas.

[4] *Algonquian Languages*, p. 355.

The first month or so of Meeker's work as a printer at Shawanoe was a period of concentrated activity for this competent young man. The extracts from his journal which are published herewith are rather closely limited to the record of matters purely typographic. Between the hours Meeker spent in the printing office, however, his attention was demanded by innumerable details incident to the making of a home in a new land, where many of the necessities of life for himself and his wife had to be procured by the work of his own hands. That he was able to do as much printing as he did in these first months is evidence of that capacity for concentration and organization which was one of Jotham Meeker's outstanding characteristics.

As a craftsman, Meeker was an intelligent and conscientious workman. The title pages of his books, as is shown by the reproductions of them which are herewith presented, are all abreast of the typographic spirit of his times and show orderly judgment in their arrangement. When the conditions are considered under which Meeker worked and the lack of even such facilities as printers elsewhere had command of in his day, his achievements, however modest in appearance, are greatly to his credit.

And Meeker was not only a printer. He also had a knowledge of at least the rudiments of binding. A number of entries in his journal during June, July, and August, 1835, give details of his work at binding the Creek gospel printed for John Davis (Number 36 in the Bibliography). In later years, he had some of his books bound for him. In May, 1842, and again in

April, 1846, some were carried to Cincinnati for binding. In June and in August, 1850, they could be sent to St. Louis. But in the more strictly pioneer conditions of 1835, Meeker showed his versatility by turning his own hands to the operations of binding, and doubtless made a good job of the work.

In this brief survey of Meeker's work as a printer, a few words should be said about those shadowy characters that appear in Meeker's journal as his journeymen employees. In May, 1835, Robert Simerwell traveled as far as Liberty, Missouri, in search of a "man to assist Br. Meeker in the printing of Indian books," but returned with the information that none was to be had without sending as far as to St. Louis for one. But a few weeks later, on June 1st, one Thomas E. Birch appeared, apparently out of nowhere, and went to work with Meeker as a journeyman. On August 13th he was dismissed and wandered back into the unknown. Later in the same year, on November 2, a "Mr. Day" went to work as Meeker's journeyman. On December 9th he, too, was dismissed, there being no more work for him, and in midwinter had to start in search of another job, somewhere along the frontier. Finally, on April 24, 1837, came "Mr. Quisinbury." As Meeker does not mention dismissing him, it is possible that he remained, for a time, at least, to work for Pratt after Meeker retired from the "printing department" to go to Ottawa.

These wandering craftsmen, appearing and then disappearing so casually, were literally "journeymen," true to the ancient traditions of their craft, traveling

from place to place in search of employment at the case. They deserve our notice here if only for the purpose of pointing to them as evidence of that adventurous spirit which has always animated printers—even when they do not have to travel new-made prairie roads in distant settlements in search of work with missionaries to the Indians.

The history of Meeker's press in its later years is more or less legendary. On September 5, 1854, "a Mr. Miller" came to Ottawa to negotiate for its purchase, but it was too small for the newspaper he had in mind. This newspaper, which Meeker records as the *Kansas Free State*, was the project of Josiah Miller and Robert G. Elliott, two young men who resolved, as soon as the Kansas-Nebraska Bill was passed, to publish an anti-slavery paper in Kansas. Miller came to Kansas in August, 1854, while Elliott was to assemble the equipment and follow. But Elliott was delayed and Miller was impatient.[6] He therefore hurried from Lawrence to Ottawa to buy the only printing plant in the Territory which was available to him. Failing in this, he joined Elliott in Cincinnati and eventually returned to Lawrence with the equipment with which the first issue of the *Free State* was finally printed, in January, 1855.

Had the Meeker press been larger, it might have had the distinction of printing the first newspaper, other than for Indians, in the Kansas Territory. If Miller had bought it on September 5, it would not

[6]Herbert Flint, *Journalism in Territorial Kansas* (unpublished MS, 1916), pp. 42-43.

have been impossible for him to have brought out a paper which would have antedated the *Leavenworth Herald* of September 15, which became the Territory's first paper. As it was, however, the press became the property of George W. Brown, of the *Lawrence Herald of Freedom*. "From Meeker," we are told,[7] "the press passed into the hands of George W. Brown. In 1857, Brown sold it to S. S. Prouty. Prouty owned the press for years, and used it in the publication of the *Freemen's Champion* and the *Neosho Valley Register*. Prouty sold it to S. Weaver, who used it at Lecompton. From thence it went to Cottonwood Falls, and from there to Cowley County. It is now supposed to be in Indian Territory, on its march of conquest. It was a Seth Adams manufacture, oval at the top. There were twenty stars on it, indicating that at the time of its manufacture there were twenty States in the Union. This was in 1817, as the twenty-first state was admitted in 1818."

It is generally the fate of pioneer presses that they disappear in junk piles. It is part of the purpose of these pages to preserve somewhat to memory the work of the pioneer press "pulled" in an early and almost forgotten day by Jothan Meeker and his Indian assistants.

[7] By S. S. Prouty, in the *Winfield Courier*, August 27, 1870, quoted as the "most probable account" by Flint, *op. cit.*, p. 613. The same story appears also in Martin's *Hand Book of the Kansas Publishing House*, Topeka, 1875, pp. 34-35.

A recent note from Secretary Connelley, of the Kansas State Historical Society, contains the information that the old press has been located "in a back room of a printing office in a town in Oklahoma," and that the Society hopes to obtain it for preservation.

EXTRACTS FROM THE THE JOURNAL OF JOTHAM MEEKER

Extracts from Meeker's Journal

1832

November

8 28 years old to-day. . . .

9 Commence examining the practicability of forming a new Indian orthography. . . .

12 Still endeavoring to ascertain the best mode of writing the Indian language. . . .

22 . . . Have completed the formation of an Ind. orthography. . . .

26 [Revising the orthography.]

December

1 to 8 [Showing the orthography to others, getting opinions on it, revising.]

11 [Began to teach two Indian boys to read and write.]

12 . . . Commence translating some of my Ottawa hymns into Chippewa. . . .

1833

January

9 Learn that Dr. James is printing the Ojibwa Testament at Albany. . . .*

During January, the Journal shows, Meeker was concentrating on the study of Indian lan-

* Dr. Edwin James' Chippewa New Testament, published by Packard and Van Bethuysen, Albany, 1833. See Journal for August 14, 1840.

guages. Later in the spring, he was ordered West, but before going to his new station he went East for a conference with his superiors, and then returned to his home in Cincinnati in September.

September

6 . . . Make out an assortment and make arrangements for the putting up of printing materials to take with me west.

7 Run about in pursuit of a press. . . .

11 [At 2 in the afternoon, Meeker started by steamboat from Cincinnati for his new station.]

October

2 . . . Arrive at Independence landing.

16 Commence an Ottawa Spelling Book. . . .

23 Spend the day at the Mission House waiting for the Printing Press, &c.

29 Removed into the Mission House, expecting to remain through winter.

From the time of his arrival at the Mission, Meeker's time was filled with details of making a home for himself and his wife. His journal is a record from day to day of house building, procuring provisions, laying in fuel, buying cows, chickens and pigs, making a log stable, with religious services with the whites, the Indians, or both, every "Lord's Day."

December

27 Receive a letter from Br. M'Coy. He wishes the Press to go up immediately.

28 Unpack the Printing materials—prepare to put up the Press.

1834

January

2 Br'n M'Coy, Evans, Lykins, Simerwell & Blanchard have all requested that I put up the Press immediately. Am engaged in making preparations for the same. Mercury fell this eve to 18 deg. below zero.

3 Hunting for a Carpenter to make sundry articles of the printing materials. Could not see the man I wanted to. . . .

4 Commence opening the type boxes and distributing types into the Cases.

6 Engaged all the day in distributing types.

7 Contract with a Mr. Gibson to complete the set of Printing aparatus [*sic*]. . . .

8 Finish opening and assorting my types.

10 Visit Br'n M'Coy & Simerwell. Converse much on the subject of printing.

14 . . . Purchase in the store [at Independence] several articles for the Printing establishment. . . .

17 Write to the Board on the subject of printing the An. Register.

23 Ride 17 miles & back to see about the making of divers kinds of wood work for the printing establishment.

February

4 Prepare articles for use in the Printing office.

10 Start to Independence to see the Carpenter about the printing materials he is making. . . .

11 . . . My work will not be completed for 8 or 10 days. Return home.

During January and February, the Journal incidentally mentions trouble with the Mormons. "Meet 25 men, armed and mounted, who are returning from pursuing and whipping some few Mormons, who have returned." (Monday, January 13, while on his ride into Independence.) And on February 24: "The Mormon trials come on; 60 militia are sent to keep order."

26 Ride to Independence and back. The printing materials are to be done next Monday, when I am to send for them.

28 . . . Br. Blanchard brings his Delaware book prepared for the Press.

March

1 . . . Set a page of types in order to make some calculations for Blanchard's book. . . .

3 Go to Independence with a waggon. . . .

4 Return home with various articles for the Printing Office.

5 & 6 Set types on Blanchard's book.

8 Took an impression of Blanchard's first form. Also printed a Shawanoe hymn for Br. Evans.

10 Mr. Blanchard came—read proof and corrected first form. Print the Shawanoe Alphabet & Hymns for Br. Evans.

11 Work of[f] the first form of the Delaware first book.

12 Print about 50 copies of the Alphabet, ab's, &c. in Delaware for Br. B.

14 Set up five pages of the Delaware book. . . .

15 Finish the composition of the Delaware book.

16 Lord's Day. . . . Rejoice to see that the Shawanoes wish to learn to read.

17 & 18 Setting types on Br. Evan's Shawanoe book.

20 Read proof and corrected Blanchard's form.

21 Complete the first Ind. book in the Territory containing 24 pages besides the cover. May the Lord add his blessing. Print Proposals for furnishing provisions to Shawanoes for the Ind. Agent.

22 Distributing types. . . .

24 Composition on Mr. Evans' Shawanoe First Book.

25 Complete the composition of the Shawanoe book.

26 Read proof, correct, and impose form. . . .

27 Set up two cover pages. . . .

28 Print 150 Shawanoe book covers. . . .

29 Complete the printing of 300 Shawanoe First books.

30 Lord's Day. . . . The Inds. seem much delighted at receiving books in their own language. . . .

April

3 Distribute types and clear up the office.

4 Make up a lot of Shawanoe books for Br. Evans.

8 Print for Br. E. 50 Hymns and prayers in Shawanoe.

17 Br. Simerwell and Wm. Ash [an Indian] all day

at Mission House, correcting and preparing the Putawatomie 1st book for the Press. . . .

18 Commence setting types for Br. Simerwell's Putawatomie book.

19 Setting types all day.

21 & 22 At work on Bro. S.'s book. . . .

24 . . . Visit Br. Simerwell for the purpose of correcting manuscripts of his Putawatomie book. . . .

25 Br. S. and Interpreter at my house. Read proof &c. . . .

Again the journal records rumors of trouble with the Mormons. "Jackson county is in an uproar."

May

2 Continue revising and correcting Putawatomie book at Br. Lykins'.

3 Finish revising the Putawatomie book. . . .

6 Setting types, &c. . . .

9 . . . Revise the first form of the Putawatomie book.

10 . . . Correct proof. . . .

13 . . . Working at the types.

16 Print 325 copies of the 1st form of the Put-[awatomie] book. . . .

19 Distribute types—set out cabbage, &c.

20 Set types all day.

22 Setting types. . . .

23 Print for Br. Blanchard three Delaware Hymns —100 copies.

26 Read proof sheet and correct 2nd form of the Putawatomie book.
27 Print off a form and distribute types.
28 Replant corn. Set types. . . .
29 Set types. . . .
30 Read and correct third form of the Putawatomie book.

June

2 . . . Finish the Putawatomie book of 32 pages.
4 Distribute types, and clear the office of standing matter.

The journal during June records for Meeker some very busy days, building, fencing, and cultivating, to say nothing of conducting Sunday School, preaching, and visiting Indians. There was also more Mormon excitement. On June 19, the journal records, all men in Jackson County were expected to be at Independence "tomorrow at 8 A.M." to repel the Mormons.

20 Set up cover for the Putawatomie book.
21 Engaged at composition on Shawanoe hymns.
25 . . . Set up the Meth[odist] Sh[awanoe] Hymn.
26 Print 100 book covers for Br. S[imerwell's Putawatomie book]—also print 3 Shawanoe hymns, 100 copies.
27 Distribute types. . . .

July

31 Clear up the office and prepare for printing Shawanoe.

During July, Meeker had been obliged to attend more to farming and building than to printing.

August

1 Revise and assist in preparing for the press the first form of Br. Lykins' Shawanoe book.

2 Translate some in Shawanoe, and commence setting types on Sh. book.

5 and 6 Engaged closely at setting types in Shawanoe.

7 Print the first form of Br. Lykins' Shawanoe book—300 copies.

8 Distribute the form of types.

9 Set up the types of Br. M'Coy's Prospectus for Ind. Advocate.

11 and 12 Print for Br. M'Coy upwards of 1200 Prospectuses.

14 . . . Setting types.

15 Setting types.

16 Print for Thos. Johnson* 200 copies of Alphabet & monosyllables.

18 Make up 2nd form of Sh. book, read proof, correct, &c.

19 Print the above form & distribute types.

20 & 21 . . . Hauling and stacking hay.

22 Setting types in Shawanoe. . . .

25 Setting types all day. . . .

27 Set types and read proof.

* Of the Methodist Mission among the Shawnees.

28 Assist Br. Merrill in forming an Otoe alphabet.*
29 Work off the last form of Shawanoe book.
30 Print covers for the above, and finish the Shawanoe 2nd book of 42 pages, compiled by Br. Lykins. May God's blessing attend it.

September

1 Composition on an Otoe book by Rev. Moses Merrill. . . .
2 Composition on Otoe book.
3 Read proof, correct & work off 300 copies of 1st Otoe book, 12 pages.
4 Composition on Otoe book Cover. Call in some of the neighbors. At 11 o'clock Mrs. M. was delivered of a healthy looking daughter.
5 Travel through settlement and hire a nurse who accompanies me home.
6 Print Br. Merrill's Otoe book cover, and finish the first book of 12 pages. This is the fifth Indian book I have printed.
8 Print for Br. Merrill 50 large Alphabets, &c. for Inf. School Cards.

* From Simerwell's journal (MS, in the library of the Kansas State Historical Society): "The present fall [1834] Br. Merrell came down from the Otos and brought a book prepared after the english style but was prevailed on to form an alphabet to suit the language an[d] copy the little work over which was printed and has returned to his people."

From Merrill's journal (quoted in Pilling, *Siouan Languages*, p. 51, as received from S. P. Merrill, of Rochester, N. Y., a son of the missionary): "Sept. 3, 1834. I have now in press a small work for the Otoes. In making my translations I am obliged to employ two interpreters, a French and an Otoe, and besides this I have to ride 20 miles to the trading post to get them."

The Otoe Mission, to which Moses Merrill was assigned, was at Bellevue, 200 miles from Shawanoe, on the north bank of the Platte River, near its junction with the Missouri (Pilling, *loc. cit.*).

9 Composition on Br. Merrill's Otoe Hymn book.
10 and 11 Composition on do. Finish the Hymns.
12 Work off the above Hymns—14 in number—300 copies.
13 Set up and print Covers for do. and finish the Otoe Hymn book.
15 Mrs. M's nurse taken sick—take her home and hire another.
16 Br. Blanchard brings first form of his 2nd Delaware book—spend considerable part of the day in examining it.
17 Distribute types and clear up the office.
18 Spend near the whole day in hunting a heifer.
19 Commence setting types for 2nd Delaware book.
20 . . . Composition.
22 Set up 2nd edition of Br. M'Coy's Prospectus for the Indian Advocate.
23 and 24 Print 1080 copies of the above.
25 Composition on the Delaware book. . .

September

29 Make up, read proof, and correct first form of Delaware book.
30 Work at the types. . . .

October

On October 1, Meeker set out for the Osage River, a distance of 40 miles, the possible location of his future home with the Ottawas. Here he examined timber lands, sites for buildings, streams, springs, and other features. On his way

home he rode 42 miles, but taking a wrong trail was delayed a night.

7 Arrived at home. Find all well. Correct form and prepare for press.

8 Work off 1st form of Br. Blanchard's second Delaware book.

9 and 10 Closely engaged in setting types.

11 Finish composition of another form—read proof with Br. Blanchard.

13 Correct types. . . .

15 Make up form and set types.

16 Print off second form of Delaware book—distribute types.

20 Set types—read proof with Br. Blanchard, prepare manuscript, &c.

21 Correct and make up form—set types.

22 Work off form. . . .

23 and 24 Work at the types.

27 Read and correct book form—set up cover.

28 Work off last form of Delaware book and the Cover, thus completing the 2nd Delaware book, 300 copies, containing 50 pages, including Cover.

29 Print a lot of Trader's Licenses for Maj. Cummins.

November

1 Kill and dress a hog. . . .

4 Distribute types. . . .

5 Purchase 50 bushels of corn. . . .

6 Take load of corn to Delaware Mill. Bring paper & ink from Meth. Miss.

8 . . . Am this day 30 years old, on the summit of life.

10 Make fence &c. around the Mission House.

11 . . . Distribute types.

12 Hunt board tree, saw logs, &c.

13 Make a chair for our babe, &c.

14 Hunt through the settlement for a fresh cow, but can get none.

19 Work at tightening the printing office for winter.

20 Still at work at the office room. . . .

21 Paste paper over the cracks, &c. in the Office.

24 . . . Bring meal from the Delaware Mill.

25 Kill and salt a hog. . . .

26 At work tightening the office room.

28 Set up types for three Shawanoe hymns for Br. Lykins.

29 Visit Bro. M'Coy—agree to print his Annual Register whenever he shall be ready.

December

1 With Deshane [a Shawnee interpreter], write a prayer and hymn in Shawanoe.

2 Wrote another Shawanoe prayer and hymn.

3 Wrote two hymns. . . .

5 Composition on Shawanoe hymns &c.

6 Finish setting up the hymns and make up form.

8 Read proof and corrected. . . . Purchase and bring home flour.

9 Composition on Sh. prayers—Br. Merrill arrives on his way to Boston.

10 Read over, and examine closely, Br. Merrill's 3rd Otoe book.

12 Print 3 Prayers and 7 Hymns to be added to Br. L[ykin]'s Shawanoe book.
13 Distribute types, and clear up the office.
15 Br. M'Coy brings manuscripts for his Ann. Register.
16 Commence setting types for the Annual Register.
17 Setting types all day. Spend the evening in teaching Inds. to sing.
18 Composition on Register. Teach Shawanoe man to sing English tunes.
20 All day setting types. . . .
22 Make up first form of the Ind. Register.
23 Ride to Mr. M'Coy's to read proof.
24 Mr. Kerr and Mr. Shepherd come to inquire about printing. . . .
25 . . . Work at press. . . .
26 Work all day in the office. . . .
27 Setting types. Purchase and salt my next year's supply of pork.
29 Picking up types all day and evening.
30 Make up form—read proof. Plain talk with Br. L[ykins] on missionary matters.
31 Work all the day at press on the second form of the Register. . . .

January 1835

1 and 2 Closely engaged at work on the Ann. Register.
3 Kill and salt away three hogs—set types.
5 All day at the types—finish the composition of the 3rd form.

6 Make up, read proof and correct the above.

7 Work at press all day. . . .

8 Finish press work of 3rd form and set types.

9 . . . Agree to print book for Mr. Johnson.

10 Finish the Comp[osition] of the Register except of the cover. . . .

12 Read proof, correct form and distribute types.

13 At press all day—uncommonly warm for this season.

14 Finish press work on the above form, and distribute types. . . .

15 Compose and make ready for the Press the cover for Ann. Register. Rev. Thos. Johnson brings the first form of his 1st Sh[awano]e Book.

16 Distribute types and work at press on the Cover.

17 Finish Br. M'Coy's Ann. Reg. a work of 52 pages, including the Cover. 1000 copies. Print 100 copies of a Put[awatomi]e book of 8 pages for Br. S[imerwell].

19 Distribute types and clear up the office.

20 Set types on Rev. Thos. Johnson's Shawanoe book.

21 At 1 A.M. ride through the settlement to accompany women to Br. Simerwell's. Sister S. delivered of a daughter. Set types.

22 Make up form, read proof, correct, &c.

23 Work off first form of Johnson's Shawanoe book.

24 Distribute and set types.

26 Make up and take proof of second form.

27 Work off form and distribute types.

28 Composition on Sh[awanoe] book. . . .
29 Finish the composition of the body of Johnson's book.
30 Set up the cover of Shawanoe book.
31 Work off the 3rd form.

February

3 Work off cover, and finish the Meth[odist] Sh[awanoe] 1st book, 32 pages, 500 copies.
5 Hunt a heifer—commence making arrangements for purchasing supplies at Cincinnati.
6 Make out bills for the purchase of printing materials, &c.
7 . . . Draw on the Board for $200 for the purchase of types, paper and ink. . . . 27 deg. below Zero.
9 Br. Blanchard starts to Massachusetts.*
14 Distribute types and clear up the office.
16 Set up cover for Br. Merrill's 3rd Otoe book.
17 Work off and distribute the above. . . .
18 Commence setting types on the 1st No. of the Shawanoe Sun. . . .
19 Composition on the Sun. . . .
20 Composition. . . .
21 Finish composition on the Sun—make up, and take proof.
23 Read proof & correct the Sun. . . .
24 Print the first No. of the Shawanoe Sun. . . .
25 Distribute types and clear up the office. . . .
26 . . . Fold up all of the Sun. Very cold.

* The purpose of this journey was to marry Mary Walton, who had been one of the missionaries at Thomas Station, on Grand River, Michigan, and was on sick leave. Blanchard returned with his bride in June.

27 Made out a bill and rode to the Methodist Mission, where I contracted for various articles of wood for the printing establishment.

March

4 Set types on Br. Merrill's 3rd Otoe book. . . .

5 Set types. Consult with Mr. Lykins on the propriety of building and removing soon among the Ottawas.

6 Set types, make up form and take proof of the Otoe book.

7 Ride to Mr. Lykins to read proof—Visit Mr. M'Coy—Correct proof.

10 Work off Otoe form—Distribute types.

11 Set types. . . . Receive a letter from Dr. Bolles.* I am directed to continue printing.

12 Revise and examine Br. L's Shawanoe Hymns. Set types in Otoe.

13 Make up form, read proof and correct. . . .

14 Work off the above form, and finish the 3rd Otoe book of 25 pages, 300 copies. . . .

16 Distribute types and clear up the office.

17 Set types on Br. Lykins' new Shawanoe Hymns.

18 Ride to Br. L's to read proof. Bring home meal from the mill. . . .

19 Print 8 pages of Hymns, 200 copies—distribute types.

20 Composition on the 2nd No. of the Shawanoe Sun.

23 Set types on the Sun. . . .

* Corresponding Secretary of the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions at Boston.

24 Set type. . . . Plant early potatoes.
25 Clear off a piece of ground. Make up, read proof and correct the Sun. . . .
26 Work off the April [2nd] No. of the Shawanoe Sun.

On March 28, Meeker started on a trip up the Missouri with Simerwell. He returned home on April 7, after a journey of about 200 miles.

April

13 Ride to Mr. London's to see about making printing aparatus [*sic*].
14 . . . Commence copying my Journal.
21 Plant potatoes and corn—decline writing for Br. M'Coy to the Board on the subject of the Annual Register.
22 Copying journal, and learn the Put[awatomie] Chief to sing.
23 Remove the printing office into the school house.
24 Distribute types, and clear up the office. . . .
25 . . . Set types on the Shawanoe Sun.
27 Set types all day. . . .
28 Set types. Work in the garden.
29 A lot of paper, types, &c. arrives from Cincinnati.

May

1 Read and correct the Sun. The oaks are just putting out to-day.
2 Print the May [3rd] No. of the Shawanoe Sun.
3 . . . Learn that Br'n Davis and Burch arrived yesterday.

5 Assist in forming a Creek alphabet. Br. S[imerwell] starts to hire a printer.

6 Bring home from Meth. Mis[sion] various articles of printing materials.

7 . . . Br. Simerwell returns without hearing of any printer for me.*

8 Open new types and fill the cases.

9 Still arranging the new types—Br. Davis† brings Creek Ms. for the Press.

11 Revise with Br. Davis Creek manuscripts for the press. Commence composition on the Creek 1st book.

12 Set types. Take an Ind. boy into my family as an apprentice.

13 . . . Set types.

14 Set types and take proof of 1st form. Mr. Claiborn Lykins starts to Indiana. I have hired him to engage for me a Journeyman printer. Finish copying my Journal into a large book.

18 Make Creek form ready for the press. . . .

19 Work all day at press.

20 Work at press and distribute types.

21 Set types and make up second form, take proof, &c.

* From Simerwell's journal (MS, in the library of the Kansas State Historical Society): [May 6, 1835] "Start in search of a man to assist Br Meeker in the printing of Indian books. Stay all night at Mr McCoys, cross the Missouri next day and arrived at Liberty at 1 o'clock. . . . Called on the Printer Mr Kelly no journeyman to be emploied and Mr. K. thinks it useless to go farther unless I would go as far as St. Louis."

† From Muskogee Baptist Mission at Fort Gibson (Arkansas). Davis was a Creek Indian. Burch, who came with him, was a Choctaw.

22 Read and correct proof. Receive Official permission from the Sec. of War to teach and establish the Press among the Ottawas.

23 Distribute types and work in the garden, &c.

25 Work all day on the 2nd form of the Creek primer.

26 Work at press and distribute types. Finish Creek 1st book, 32 pages, except Cover.

27 Set types on the Sun. Assist in revising Br. Burch's Choctaw Manuscripts.

28 Make up, read proof and correct part of the Sun. . . .

29 . . . Order from Columbia Mo. 150 dollars worth of printing paper.

30 . . . Arranging types &c. in office.

June

1 Thomas E. Birch commenced this morning Journey work with me. Work off the June [4th] No. of the Shawanoe Sun.

2 . . . Commence composing Br. Simerwell's Put[awatomie] Catechism & Hymn books.

3 Make up, read proof and correct Putawatomie form.

4 Work off 1st form of Putawatomie book, and distribute types.

5 Ride to Westport to make arrangements to procure materials, to bind Br. Davis' books, &c. Make up Put[awatomie] form.

6 Print 30 handbills for J. C. M'Coy. Correct proof sheet. . . .

8 Work off 2nd form of Putawatomie book. Distribute types.

9 At Putawatomie book. . . .

10 Set types and make up form of Putawatomie.

11 Read proof, correct and work off 3rd form of Br. Simerwell's [Putawatomie] book. . . .

13 Make up and take proof of Br. S. Burch's 1st book in Choctaw.

15 . . . Correct Choctaw book form.

16 Work off the above form, and make up Put. form.

17 Hunt horses and make purch[as]es at Westport Store. Correct form.

18 Work off [4th] Put. form and correct Choctaw matter. Sister Blanchard taken down with Measles.

19 Make up and correct 2nd Choctaw form. . . .

20 Work off the above form. . . .

22 . . . A box of paper arrives from Cincinnati.

24 Hire a man to make a press for pressing paper. Hunt oxen. . . .

25 A Hurricane passed over us between 3 and 4 A.M. . . .

26 Write . . . to Mr. Joseph Kerr.

July

1 Started on a visit to the Ottawas—missed my way—arrived at the Wea Mission, 35 miles from home.

4 . . . Selected a place for building, &c.

6 Rode home—found all well. . . .

8 Commence setting types on the Ioway book for the Presbyterian Mission, which is selected from Br. Merrill's Otoe books.

9 Work off the last form of Br. Birch's Choctaw book, and also Br. Simerwell's 3rd Putawatomie; thus completing the first Choctaw book of 61 pages, 1000 copies, and the 3rd Putawatomie book of 84 pages, 400 copies.

10 Commence setting types on Br. Davis' Gospel by John in Creek.

11 At work at the types. . . .

13 Make up and take proof of the first form of the Gospel in Creek.

14 Correct and revise the above form.

15 Work off the above form 1000 copies.

17 Make up and take proof of 2nd form of Testament. . . .

18 Set up Covers for the Creek and Choctaw's First Books.

20 . . . Work off Covers for the Creek and Choctaw 1st Books.

21 Correct and work off the 2nd form of the Creek Test[amen]t.

23 . . . Work off a lot of cards for Dr. Chute.

24 Make up and take proof of 3rd form of Creek Testament.

25 Correct the above form & set types. . . .

27 Set types in Ioway—fold Sheets. Make patterns for Binding tools.

28 Work off 3rd form of the Testament. Distribute.

29 . . . Composition on Testament.

30 . . . Bring home Paper Boards from Meth. Mission.

31 Correct, &c. the Testament. . . .

August

1 Print the 4th form of the Creek Testament.

3 Set types on the Testament. Missouri elections to-day.

4 Setting types. . . .

5 At the types. Am informed that the Board have decided that I print the 2nd No. of the Ann. Reg. this fall.

6 Take proof of and assist in reading 5th form of the Creek Testament.

7 Work off the above form. . . .

10 Set types. Assist Br. Lykins in preparing materials for binding books.

11 Made up last form of Creek Testament, read proof and corrected—assist in trimming books.

12 Work off the above form, thus finishing the Gospel by John in the Creek language, making a book of 192 pages, 1000 copies. May the Lord add his blessing. . . .

13 Work off a form of a book for Mr. Kerr for the Ioways, thus finishing the first Ioway Reading Book except the Cover of 31 pages. Dismiss my Journeyman.

14 Engaged in binding the Creek Gospel for Br. Davis.

15 Sewing books. All hands at work at book-binding.

17, 18 and 19 Closely engaged in binding books for Br. Davis.

20 . . . Book-binding. . . .

21 Engaged all the day in trimming books.

22 Finished trimming the Creek Testaments—have bound 500 books, and glued and trimmed the remainder ready for covering. . . .

24 Pack up Brethren Davis' & Burch's books. They take them as far as to Br. Lykins' to-day, expecting to start home on to-morrow.

25 Assisted Br'n D. & B. in starting home. Accompanied them six miles. May the Lord go with them. . . .

26 . . . Mr. and Mrs. Kerr arrive from the Wea Mission.

27 Examine with Mr. Kerr his Wea book. Have not yet decided whether to print it or not. Take William Ash [an Indian boy] as an apprentice.

28 Print the Covers for the Ioway book. Mr. Kerr concludes to not have his Wea Book printed here now.

September

1 All day at work making hay.

For about two weeks now, Meeker is chiefly occupied with haying, digging potatoes, and helping neighbors at these and similar tasks.

10 . . . Mr. Kerr leaves his Wea Manuscripts.

17 Distribute types and clear up the office.

21 Setting types on Mr. Kerr's Wea Book.

22 . . . Work all day at the types.

23 At work at the types.

24 . . . Bring home a load of pumpkins. Set types.

September 25-28, Meeker attended the meeting of the Blue River Baptist Association, at the Six-Mile Meeting House, in Missouri. If the minutes of this meeting were printed, Meeker makes no mention of it.

29 Set types on the Wea book.

30 Finish setting the types, take proof, correct, &c.

October

1 Send an Indian with a proof sheet to Mr. Kerr.

Several days are now taken up with gathering and storing potatoes and corn.

5 Correct types and make arrangements for working at Press.

6 Purchase our winter shoes at Meth. Mission. Work at Press.

7 Work off 2nd form of Wea Book.

8 Work off 3rd form of do.

9 Work off the Cover and finish the Wea 1st book for Rev. Mr. Kerr; 42 pages, 250 copies.

10 . . . [Mr. Kerr] sends for his books.

12 Tightening the office for winter.

14 Distribute types and clear up the office.

15 Composition on the Shawanoe Sun. . . .

16 Finish composition of the Sun. Take and read proof, &c.

17 . . . Br. Lykins was ordained to the Gospel ministry by Br. M'Coy.

20 Work off the October [5th] No. of the Sun. . . .

26 Distribute types, and clear up the office.

28 Commence composition on Mr. M'Coy's 2nd Annual Register of Indian Affairs. Expect to be confined closely to it.
29 Composition on the Register.
30 Composition half the day. Kill a Beef.
31 Cut up and salt away beef. Take proof of 1st form.

November

2 Correct and revise form. . . . Hire Mr. Day, Journeyman printer.
3 Work at Press on the Register. Dip Candles.
4 Work at Press. Distribute types, read proof, &c.
5 . . . Set types and make up second form of Register.
6 Work at the types. . . .
7 Work off the 2nd form of the Register.
8 . . . Am 31 years old to-day.
9 Work at the types. Read proof, &c.
10 Set types and haul firewood.
11 Haul fire wood—make up form—take proof and lodge with Br. M'Coy.
12 Work in the office. Purchase and bring home some Cabbage.
13 Work off 3rd form of the Register. . . .
14 Set types and make up 4th form of Reg. . . .
16 Corrected form and rode to Mr. Lykins and to Mr. M'Coy's to read proof sheet, &c.
17 Worked off 4th form of the Register. . . .
18 Composition on the [6th] Shawanoe Sun. . . .
19 Set types on the Sun, and make it up.

20 Composition on the Register—read proof of the Sun. Mr. Kerr with us.

21 Correct and work off the Sun, which contains seven communications from as many Shawanoes. One long piece is postponed.

23 Make up and take proof of form. . . .

25 Work off [5th] form [of Register]. . . .

26 Distribute and set types on the Register.

27 Make up the 6th form, read proof, &c.

30 Correct and set types &c.

December

1 Work off 6th form of the Register. Shell corn.

2. Set types and make up 7th form, read proof, &c.

4 Haul wood. Work of[f] 7th form of the Register after 2 o'clock.

5 Make up last form—read proof. . . .

7 Work of[f] 8th form of the Register.

8 Set up, correct, &c. the cover for the Register.

9 Work of[f] the cover, and thus finish the 2nd No. of the Ann. Register of Ind. Affairs, 91 pages, 1500 copies. Dismiss my Journeyman. . . .

14 Distribute types and clear up the office.

17 Distribute types and commence setting types on the Sun.

19 . . . Set types on the Sun.

21 Make up, take proof of, and read Shawanoe Sun. Shell corn.

24 Work off the January [7th] No. of the Shawanoe Sun.

Right after Christmas, Meeker devoted himself to laying in provisions for the winter.

28 Assist in killing our winter's pork.

29 Cut up and salt away pork.

1836

January

9 Spend the day at Br. Lykins's, assisting in revising and preparing for the Press matter for the Shawanoe New Testament. . . .

11 Distribute types and clear up the office expecting to commence the Shawanoe Testament tomorrow.

12 No copy arrived. . . .

13 Commence setting types on the Shawanoe New Testament.

14 All day setting types. . . .

15 Read proof, correct types & haul fire wood. . . .

16 Haul wood and set types.

19 Purchase and drive home a milk cow. Correct types.

20 Engaged all day in revising and endeavoring to have correct the first five Chapters of Matthew in the Shawanoe language.

21 Correct types nearly all day. . . .

23 Make up 1st form of the Gospel by Matthew in Shawanoe.

25 Set up title pages, take proof, &c. Ride to Westport, have a tooth pulled.

26 Make a final revision and correction of the 1st form of Matt.

27 Work off the whole of the above form alone.

28 Distribute types, and finish setting up the 2nd form, take proof.

30 Revise critically the 2nd form of the Shawanoe Testament.

February

2 Write to my mother. Correct types.

3 Tighten smoke house, hang up pork, & work some at the types.

5 Make up the second form of the Shawanoe Testament. . . .

8 Work off second form of the Shawanoe Testament.

9 Write for Blackfeather a long communication for the [Shawanoe] Sun.

10 Write to Dr. Bolles—send to the Board a full account of my last year's labors—transmit also the account of Receipts & Expenditures of the Printing Dep.

12 . . . Iron and fold sheets for the Shawanoe Testament.

13 Make up two pages of the Sun. . . .

15 Write two pages of the Sun with Deshane.

16 Set types and finish the Sun. Make up form.

17 Take proof sheets to Deshane's. . . .

18 Correct and work off the Feb. [8th] No. of the Sun.

22 Make out memorandums, straighten my accounts, &c. and make arrangements for starting to Cincinnati on to-morrow for my mother, hoping to be back in about 7 weeks.

The stages of Meeker's journey are condensed from his journal as follows:

23rd 24 miles.
24th 33 miles, to Lexington.
25th 27 miles.
26th 35 miles; crossed the Missouri.
27th 35 miles, to Columbia. "Call on Mr. Lamme to see about Printing paper."
28th Sunday; did not travel.
29th "Engage a lot of printing paper." 24 miles, to Fulton.

March 1st 50 miles.
2nd 45 miles, to St. Charles; 9 below zero.
3rd Arrived at St. Louis at 2 p. m. Steamboat "Paul Jones" left immediately.
7th Louisville.
8th Cincinnati, at noon.

12 Draw on the Board for $150 for my half yearly allowance.

On the 15th, Meeker notes the receipt of $16.68, his share of the estate of his recently deceased grandfather. After several days of family visits and conferences, on the 26th, at 2 p.m., he is on board the "Paul Jones" with his mother, Mrs. Lydia Bradstreet.

27th Louisville.

April 2nd St. Louis, at 8 p.m.
3rd Left St. Louis at 10 a.m. on the "John Hancock."
6th Jefferson City, 9 p.m.
7th Booneville, 9 p.m.

8th Left the boat (alone). Walked to Franklin; then rode 30 miles.

9th 46 miles.

10th 34 miles to Independence. Sunday.

11th The boat arrived at Independence, 3 p.m.

13th Left Independence, with his mother, in a borrowed "Dearborn," and was home at 6 p.m.

15 . . . Copy off my journal from Feb. 23.

Meeker encountered difficulties in the transportation of his baggage and freight from Independence. On the 20th he notes: "The Blue being very high, we had to cross the whole of our four horse wagon and load in a small canoe, by taking all to pieces."

25 . . . The oak trees are just putting out their leaves to-day.

26 Print a lot of horse bills for Mr. Yoacham. . . .

May

2 Correct form and make ready for press work. . . .

3 Work off a form [the 3rd] of the Shawanoe Testament, 500 copies.

4 Distribute types, make up pages of Shawanoe Hymns, &c.

5 Make up, take proof, read and correct form. . . .

6 Set types on Test[ament]—carry proof sheets to Interpreter. . . .

9 Set types on the Shawanoe Test[ament]. A great excitement in Jackson County again about the Mormons, who talk of coming back.

10 Work off a form of Shawanoe Hymns 650 copies.
11 Clean up the office. . . .
16 . . . Set types on the Testament.
17 . . . Work at the types.
18 Make up, take proof, read and correct form of Testament. . . .
19 Critically revise by the English the above form —ride to Deshane's to have it examined—correct and make it ready for the Press. Work some in the garden.
20 Work off 2nd edition of the 1st form of the Sh[awanoe] Testament. . . .

On the 28th, Meeker started with his wife and child for a visit to the Ottawa country. At the Wea Mission the party was detained by rumors of impending hostilities on the part of the Osages against the Weas and the whites, and the journey to the Ottawas was abandoned.

June

2 Br. Blanchard brings some Delaware Hymns to print—make preparations for printing them.
3 Set types on Delaware Hymns. . . .
4 Engaged at the types. . . .
7 Set types, read proof of Delaware Hymns—set Shawanoe Alphabet, &c.
10 . . . Read proof of Del. Hymns with Br. Blanchard.
13 . . . Work at the Delaware Hymns.
15 Make up, read proof and correct form of Delaware Hymns. . . .

18 Engage with Br. Blanchard and Conner in revising and correcting Delaware Hymns.

20 Prepare balls, &c. for printing on to-morrow.

21 Print 24 pages of Delaware Hymns for Br. Blanchard—800 copies. . . .

23 Ride with Br. Merrill to the Methodist Mission to get a Standing press made. . . .

27 . . . Write with Deshane a Shawanoe prayer. Engage in writing matter in Eng[lish] to be translated for the Sun. . . . Br. Blanchard states that he has taught the Delaware Speaker to read within the last eight days.

29 Work off 2nd form of Shawanoe Hymns, 666 copies.

30 Iron, fold, and make up 33 Shawanoe Scripture & Hymn Books.

July

1 Visit several Shawanoe families—teach Blackfeather in writing. For several days have been seeking an Interpreter.

2 . . . Cut a bee tree and hive bees—teach Henry Bluejacket to write &c.

5 Spend the day at the Interpreter's writing and translating into the Shawanoe language for the Shawanoe Sun.

6 . . . Write for the Shawanoe Sun.

7 Assist Blackfeather in writing a Communication for the Sun. Make bee hives, &c. Set types for the Sun.

8 Set types for the Sun. . . .

9 Make up and correct the Sun. Witness Shawanoe burial ceremony.

11 Read the Sun with Deshane and with Blackfeather, and correct it.

12 Work off the July [9th] No. of the Sun. Go to see Br. Lykins, who is sick.

13 Ride to Wawalapea's settlement, where I distribute the Sun to all who can read it, also give out books, paper, ink, quills, &c.

14 Iron sheets and make up fifty Shawanoe books, containing about one third of Matthew and 22 hymns, and other matter.

15 Ride among the Shawanoes. . . . Distribute upwards of fifty books among the Inds. besides newspapers.

18 Bring from Westport in Waggon a load of Printing paper which has just arrived. . . .

22 Iron and fold a lot of sheets for Shawanoe book.

26 Ride to Meth. Mission—find my standing press, &c. completed. . . .

29 . . . Employ man to bring home from Meth. Mission a standing press.

30 . . . Write for the Sun, and translate a little of the Gospel by Matthew.

August

2 . . . Put up Standing Press.

4 Put together and cover 50 Shawanoe books.

8 Trim and make ready for delivery 50 Shawanoe books.

11 Set types for the August No. of the Shawanoe Sun.

16 All day translating. Feel soreness in my chest.

17 Take proof, read and correct Shawanoe Sun.

22 Make up form of Sun. . . .

25 . . . Correct types. Have been so afflicted with a pain in my breast for several days past as to disable me from translating or laboring in the office or elsewhere.

27 Have my hay stacked—Work of[f] the Aug. [10th] No. of the Sh. Sun.

31 I have become an invalid, incapable of either writing or performing any corporeal employment. . . .

September

Meeker's illness continued for some time. He did practically no work of any kind during September.

October

Early in October, under advice from Dr. Chute, Meeker commenced a "course of blistering, cupping, &c. for a disease in the spine." He also enters in his journal on a number of dates that he is suffering from "biles" on his shoulder and elsewhere.

13 Receive a letter from the Board directing [me] to establish a Mission among the Ottawas so soon as a printer can be found to fill my place in the Printing Department. W. Ash [the Indian apprentice] is taken sick.

31 Brought home from Westport in my waggon 7

reams of Pr. paper. . . . My soreness and pains continue.

November

8 . . . Commence an evening Shawanoe Arithmetic School—five scholars attended.

9 Write in the evening for the Shawanoe Sun.

12 . . . Set types [of Association minutes?]. . . .

14 Set types on Ass'n minutes & write matter for the Sun.

15 Set types. . . . Write Shawanoe for the Sun in the evening.

17 Work of[f] part of the Minutes. The weakness in my breast prevents my finishing them—am also afflicted with biles.

18 Finish working off the above Minutes 450 copies. . . .

19 Make up the November No. of the Sun, read proof, &c.

21 . . . Correct types, &c.

22 Work off the November [11th] No. of the Sun, fold them, &c.

23 Fold the Minutes and carry them to Westport. Much conversation with Br. M'Coy relative to printing, &c.

December

5 . . . Received and paid for 125 bushels of corn at 20 cts.

12 . . . Examine all the old Nos. of the Sun and bind two Volumes of it. Send a lot of Ind. Books to J. M. Peck.

17 . . . Understand from Br. Blanchard that Mr. Pratt, a printer from Mass. will probably be here in the Spring to take my place. . . .

27 Set types for the Jan. No. of the Sun. . . .

28 Translating of the New Testament into Shawanoe.

29 All day translating. . . .

30 Set types for the Sun. . . .

January 1837

3 Translate till 2 o'clock, when my weakness in my breast compelled me to stop. . . .

5 Set types for the Sun. . . .

6 . . . Set types and make up the Sun. Read proof.

7 . . . Jos. Deshane. . . assists me in reading proof and writing an article for the Sun.

10 Work off the January [12th] number of the Shawanoe Sun.

11 Distributed 100 copies of the Shawanoe Sun among the Shawanoes.

13 Distribute types—settle an engagement with Wm. Parks to make for me a five acre field in the Ottawa settlement, and build a small house, and also to furnish me with 3000 ft. of plank.

18 . . . Br. Merrill arrives from Otoe to be engaged for five or six weeks in translating Scripture into Otoe, and to have it printed.

19 Assist Br. Merrill in arranging the Harmony of the Gospels for Br. Merrill to translate. . . .

23 Hang up a part of my bacon. Labor with a disorderly brother. Things wear a gloomy aspect

around us. Lord help us, for all our help must come from thee.

24 Set types for the Sun. . . .

25 Engaged all day in setting types for the Sun. . . .

27 Engaged in translating matter for the Sun & set types.

28 Make up and read proof and correct the Feb. No. of the Sun.

31 Translate on the New Testament from Shawanoe to English.

February

1 Set types, translate and distribute, &c.

2 Work off the February [13th] No. of the Sun. Distribute types. . . . Learn that Mr. Lykins is too sick to return from Indiana before Spring.

3 Distribute the Sun among the Shawanoes. . . .

6 Commence setting types on the Harmony of the Gospels in Delaware by Br. Blanchard.

8 . . . Set types on the Harmony.

13 Finish setting types for the first form of the Delaware Harmony and make up pages. . . .

14 Ride to Westport to get some furniture made for locking up form—make up form—take proof.

15 Distribute types. . . . Br. Blanchard and Interpreter come to read proof sheets.

16 Engaged all the day in correcting Br. B's form of the Harmony.

17 Read the proof sheet with Br. B. twice and correct it. Bro. Merrill returns from the Ioway Mission, where he has been engaged for the last

four weeks in translating the Harmony into the Otoe, Missouri and Iowa languages.

18 Engaged all day in examining with Br. Merrill his translations of a part of the Harmony, which he is to leave with me to print, and return to Otoe soon.

20 Finish examine [*sic*] Br. Merrill's manuscripts. Br. M. leaves us for home. . . .

21 Work all day at press on Br. Blanchard's Harmony.

22 Finish printing the Delaware Harmony first form. . . .

23 Gave to the Board an account of my last years labors, and my accounts, &c.

26 . . . Received a letter from Mr. John G. Pratt.

28 Commence setting types on the Harmony of the Gospels in Otoe.

March

2 Setting types on Br. Merrill's Harmony. . . .

3 Set types. . . .

7 . . . Wrote three letters to Br. M'Coy [at Washington], requesting him to hire a Journeyman printer. . . .

8 Work at the types. . . .

9 Set types and take proof of the Otoe matter. Read some proof.

10 Read proof—fold a lot of the past numbers of the Shawanoe Sun. . . .

13 Make up and take proof of Otoe form. . . .Prepare to ride to Ottawa on to-morrow.

On the 14th, Meeker rode to the Ottawa settlement, laid out his five-acre field, selected a building site, sowed grass seed, and dug a spring, returning to the Shawanoe Mission on the 16th.

17 Revise the first form of Otoe book. Mr. Ballard of the Ioway [Presbyterian] Mission calls on us to see about having printing done.

18 Correct form—distribute types, and prepare to work at press.

20 Print 500 copies of the first form of Br. Merrill's Otoe Harmony, and 100 of the same for the Ioway [Presbyterian] Mission.

21 . . . Work in the afternoon at the types.

22 Engaged all the day in setting types—vegetation is springing rapidly.

23 Set types all day on the Otoe Harmony.

24 Set types—pack away my bacon, hams, mend my harnass [*sic*], &c.

25 Finish setting types for the Otoe Harmony. . . .

27 Read Otoe proof sheet. . . .

28 Finish setting the types for the 2 forms of the Otoe Harmony.

29 Correct types. Make up form; and take proof, &c.

30 Engaged near all the day in reading Otoe proof sheet.

31 Work at press alone on the Otoe Harmony. Make a pair of new balls.

April

1 Finish printing Bro. Merrills "First Part" of the Otoe Harmony, 32 pages, 500 copies. Also finish

100 copies of the same (altered to suit the Presbyterian peculiarities) for the Ioway Mission.

5 Distribute types in the forenoon—in the afternoon visit Br. M'Coy, who has just returned from Washington City. . . .

6 Write matter to be translated for the Shawanoe Sun. . . .

8 Visit Br. M'Coy to make arrangements for printing his Annual Register. . . .

11 Closely engaged all day in translating for the Sun.

12 Set types for the Sun. Make up and take proof, &c. . . .

13 Read proof and correct the above form. . . .

14 Print the April [14th] No. Sun, and distribute it among the Shawanoes.

19 . . . To Br. M'Coy's, where I examine his manuscript of the "History of Indian Missions."*

Typesetting on the above began on the 20th.

24 A Mr. Quisinbury, a journeyman printer, arrived on yesterday.

26 Start with my potatoes, seed corn and garden seeds in a waggon to the Ottawa settlement. . . .

May

On the 2nd, Meeker was back from the Ottawa settlement, where he had done some preliminary planting at the site of his new home.

5 Work off first form of Br. M'Coy's "Account of Baptist Missions.["]

* This is probably the work which was published as the *Periodical Account of the Baptist Indian Missions*, and not the much larger *History of Baptist Indian Missions* published at Washington in 1840.

8 Assist Br. Blanchard in reading proof. The may-apples . . . are just putting out.

9 Spend all of to-day in reading and correcting Br. B.'s Scripture form.

10 Learn that my men have gone home without planting my corn at Ottawa, or building my temporary house.

11 . . . Carry a proof sheet to Mr. M'Coy—assist him in reading it. Mr. and Mrs. [John G.] Pratt arrive from Massachusetts. Receive a letter from the Board. Am instructed to remain here a few weeks.

12 Work off the second form of Mr. M'Coy's work.

13 . . . Make up book form and read proof.

15 Ride to Br. M'Coy's with his proof sheet. . . .

17 . . . Br. Lykins returns from Indiana with his family.

No more mention is made of printing during the rest of this month. Several days were spent in trying to buy a wagon—"wagons everywhere are excessively high"—and in searching for a lost horse. On the 29th Meeker left on horseback for Ottawa; he found that birds had pulled up all his corn, and replanted it.

June

On the 3rd, Meeker was back at the Shawanoe Mission. On the 5th, he settled with Rev. Isaac McCoy for "printing the 'Periodical Account'." By the 13th he was prepared to move his family to Ottawa, and on the 16th he started, traveling

18 miles and camping that night on the prairie. The next day the family traveled 20 miles and again camped at night, "among the musquitoes and rain." On the 18th, after 7 miles more, or 45 miles in all, the Meeker's arrived at the site of their new home.

On leaving the Shawanoe Mission, Meeker definitely turned over the "printing department" to his successor, John G. Pratt. There is no further mention of printing in Meeker's journal during the rest of 1837.

1838

January

9 Commenced writing an Ottawa Book. . . .

15 Write a letter to Br. Pratt—write pieces in English to be translated for the Ottawa First Book. . . .

29 Engaged all day in translating for my Indian book. . . .

February

2 . . . Copy and revise Ind[ian] manuscript.

8 . . . Ride to Shawanoe Mission. Lodge at Br. Pratt's.

9 Commence setting types for my "Ottawa First Book." . . .

10 Work all day at the types. . . .

12 Work at the types. Make up the first form. . . .

13 Make up, take proof and correct both forms.

14 Work off sixty copies of both forms, and finish

my First Ottawa Book of 24 pages. It was so cold we could print no more.*

17 Ride home. . . . Suffer much with cold. . . .

19 Fold some printed sheets. . . .

20 Make up some Ottawa books. . . .

21 Stitch some books. Two men called to be taught to read. . . .

22 Spend the day in visiting different Indian families and teaching in the Ottawa book. . . .

26 Spend the day in teaching the Indians to read. . . . Five new persons commence.

During the rest of 1838, there is no further mention of any activity connected with printing. On June 3, Meeker was ordained a Baptist minister, the ordination service being held at the Shawanoe Mission. On July 9 he opened a school for Indian children at Ottawa. The spring and summer were filled with continuous struggle against sickness and with building houses, clearing land, plowing, and sowing. In July, Dr. J. A. Chute vaccinated all the Indians. But in October that physician was dead. On November 8, Meeker was 34 years old.

1839

During the first five months of 1839, Meeker's time is entirely taken up with his multitud-

* "On the 6th of February, I left my family, and rode to Shawanoe, where br. Pratt and I printed the Ottawa First Book, of 24 pages; and having prepared 400 copies, I returned home with a part of my books on the 17th, since which time fourteen men, two women, and ten children, have commenced learning to read." (Letter from Meeker to the Board of Missions, March 5, 1838, in *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 18, No. 11, November, 1838, p. 292.)

inous missionary duties. A Catholic missionary, "Mr. Hooker," appears, and "sprinkles" Meeker's prospective converts. The Indians are much confused by the two versions of Christianity. There is much drinking and rioting among them, and reversions to "pagan" ceremonies. In June, Meeker begins to give attention to getting out another book.

June

21 . . . Hunt up some of my old Ind[ian] Hymns with a view of having some printed soon. . . . Indians off hunting.

25 Spend nearly all of the day in revising hymns which I wrote some months ago, and altering others from the Chippewa. Bro. David* assists me.

26 David and I write hymns. . . .

27 . . . Copy hymns for the press.

28 Write hymns. . . .

July

2 Write on my Indian hymns. . . .

5 . . . Copy off some of my Ottawa hymns. . . .

6 . . . Finish copying my Indian hymns for the press. . . .

11 . . . Punctuate my Indian hymns and prepare them for the press.

13 Br. David and I go over the hymns, and give them a final revision. . . .

* David Green, an Ottawa convert. See June 26, 1845.

20 . . . Send my Indian hymns to the printing office to be printed. . . .

August

14 Start alone [for the Shawanoe Mission] at sunset, travel in the night to avoid the flies.

15 . . . Arrive at Mr. Pratt's at half past seven A.M. My proof sheet is not ready for me to examine as I had expected. . . .

16 . . . Arrive [home] a little before 12 in the night.

September

During September, Meeker is fighting sickness, in his own family and among the Indians. On the 18th, "At 1 o'clock a. m. Mrs. M. was delivered of an apparently healthy daughter."

October was devoted to harvesting—potatoes, corn, turnips, pumpkins. Not until November does Meeker find time again for work on his Ottawa hymn book.

November

4 Ride . . . to Shawanoe, where I design staying until I shall have printed my Ottawa Hymn Book. . . .*

* At this time, Pratt was not at the Shawanoe Mission as printer. "The [Shawanoe] station has suffered much on account of the poor health of the missionaries. Mr. and Mrs. Pratt laboured under difficulties of this character, especially the latter, whose symptoms of diseased lungs became so alarming, that they deemed it expedient to return to her kindred in New England. . . . We feel sensibly the loss of these young missionaries, especially in the printing department, in which Mr. Pratt's place has not yet [end of 1839] been supplied. . . . All deeply regret the suspension of the operations of the press, and the board have resolved to furnish another printer as early as possible." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, p. 556.) Pratt returned to the Shawanoe Mission in November, 1840.

6 . . . Distribute some types, and prepare to go to work.

7 All day setting types. In the evening rode to Br. M'Coy's, where we read till late his History of Indian Bap. Missions.

8 . . . Work till near 10 at night at composition.

9 Finish setting types. Make up form and take proof.

11 Rode very early to Br. M'Coy's on business. . . . Return and print off my form.

12 Print Covers for my Hymn Book, and some tickets for Geo. Williams, the Shawanoe chief. Press my sheets and prepare to start home.

13 Ride home with one hundred copies of my book. Find my family well. . . .

14 Make up a few books, and attend to some jobs.

28 Make up a lot of Ottawa Hymn Books. . . .

In December, Meeker recorded the dipping of candles and the collecting of firewood, as well as killing hogs and dressing and salting the pork. There was also a conflict with Indian "conjurers" over Waseum, a dying Indian.

1840

Meeker began the year under much discouragement. The Indians were drinking and fighting, and would not attend his school. There was strong opposition, and much talk of driving the missionaries out of the country. Also there was much sickness. The few entries in the journal

which have to do with Meeker's publishing activities are included in the following extracts.

May

22 . . . Fold up some sheets of the Ottawa First Book. Four Ottawas have within a few days past requested to be taught to read, but our books have given out. . . .

23 Finish off 24 Ottawa First Books and 8 Putawatomie books,* of Hymns and Questions. . . .

29 Make up 24 Ottawa Hymn Books. . . .

30 Finish my hymn books. . . .

July

8 Commence copying off my Journal to send to the Bd.

16 Copy off some of my journal to send to the Board. . . .

27 . . . Understand that the Roman priest is very mad at me.

August

7 Write seven pages foolscap (embracing extracts from my journal for the last five months) to the Board.

14 Commence the translating of the New Testament —Br. Green assists. We go slow. God only knows how far we shall go with it.†

* Probably Simerwell's Catechism and hymn book (No. 32 in the Bibliography).

† According to a statement in the *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 17, 1837, p. 127, this translation was based on "Dr. James's Ojibwa version of the New Testament, the two languages having a close resemblance to each other." See Journal, January 9, 1833.

25 Fold up a lot of Ottawa Hymn books. Wait on the sick.

Meeker noted in his journal "much sickness in the country." There was backsliding among his Indian converts. "The devil seems to be let loose upon us."

September

28 Finish off 38 Ottawa Hymn books. . . .

November

8 Lord's day. . . . Am to-day 36 years old—18 years I lived in the service of Satan, and 18, I trust, in the service of God. 15 years ago last evening I started for the Indian country.

13 Engaged all day in translating Matthew's Gospel.

16 All day translating. Write off some laws for some of the brethren in the evening in both English and Indian.

On the 18th, 20th, 26th, 27th, 28th, and 30th, Meeker entered in his journal "Translate all day."

December

On the 19th, 21st, 23rd, 25th, 30th, and 31st Meeker noted in his journal that he was busy translating.

1841

January

5 Translate half of the day.

13 All day translating.

18 Translate all day. The ink freezes so it is difficult to write.

The work of translating is noted at intervals throughout February, March, April, and May. There were visits to Shawanoe and Westport now and then, and spring planting—onions, potatoes, corn and peas. On April 2 Meeker took his older daughter Maria (aged six and a half) to "Br. Pratt's, where I leave her to go to school." His baby, Emeline, was sick, two of his best horses died, the Indians were "dancing and drinking," and on May 12 he noted "the severest attack of ague I ever had." Nevertheless, the translation went forward. On May 29 Meeker was "engaged the most of the day in revising a part of the translation and preparing it for the press." On June 18 he wrote "Finish off a lot of 20 Ottawa hymn books," and on the 23rd, "Commence copying off my journal for the last seven months in my new book." He started the building of a new house, and on July 8th brought Maria home after three months at school. On July 13th he finished copying off his journal and brought it "up to the present date."

August

9 Start at 3 A.M. for Shawanoe with my waggon. Expect to remain some time to print Matthew's Gospel in Ottawa. . . . Arrive at Shawanoe Mission about 10 P.M.

11 Distribute types and revise Mss. with Br. Barker from the Greek. Br. Green assists. . . .

12 Commence setting types on the Ottawa Testa-

ment. Work at it all day. Br. Pratt works with me.

13 Revise by the Greek. Read proof. . . .

14 Read proof, correct, and print off first form of the Ottawa Test't.

16 Revise manuscripts with Br. Barker. Distribute types.

18 Set types all day, and read proof until bed time.

19 Read proof and correct form. Start for home. Encamp.

20 We arrive at home and find our families well.

September

6 Br. Green and I go to Shawanoe in my waggon.

7 . . . Read proof and correct types. Work late.

8 Read proof, correct and work form No. C. of Ott[awa] Test't.*

11 . . . Arrive at home at 12.

21 . . . Make up 10 copies of the three first forms of Ott. Test.

22 Remove into our new mission house.

October

29 Finish off a lot of 20 Ottawa Hymn books.

November

8 Am this day 37 years of age. Have, during the past year . . . completed the translation of Matthew's Gospel, and have printed a part of it. . . .

18 Received yesterday a packet from Br. Pratt containing several sheets of manuscript copy of the translation which are almost destroyed by mice—

* Apparently form B was printed by Pratt after Meeker had returned to Ottawa on August 19th. Meeker makes no mention of press work on it.

must spend some days in writing them over. . . .

19 On yesterday and to-day have been engaged in retranslating and copying. In the evening finish off 20 Ottawa First books.

22 Prepare to go to Shawanoe to-morrow to print.

24 Arrive at Br. Pratt's at 12 M. . . .

25 . . . In a severe snow storm to the printing office. Work at setting types the remainder of the day.

26 Work all day at setting types. Make up the 4th form [D] of Ottawa Testament, and read part of the proof sheet. . . .

27 Read proof, correct and work off form D.

29 Revise and compare with the Greek, and set types. . . .

30 Set types, read proof, and correct.

December

1 Work off form E. Distribute types, and revise from the Greek. . . .

2 Set types, make up form, read proof and correct.

3 Work off Form F. . . .

4 Set types in the morning. . . .

6 Set types, read proof and correct form.

7 Work off form G. Revise and distribute types.

8 Set types, read and correct. . . .

9 Work off form H. being the last of Matthew's Gospel in Ottawa. . . .

On the 10th, Meeker was home at Ottawa again, after an absence of eighteen days. He found his wife and two children very ill.

21 Commence making up some of the Ottawa Gospels. . . .

22 Finish off the 24 copies of Matthew's Gospel, it being the first that have been bound of the whole gospel. After much labor and many prayers one of the books of the Bible is completed in Ottawa and ready for delivery—some twenty of the Indians have been taught to read, and are anxious to get it. Go forth, little book, and, accompanied by the grace of the Most High, make many wise unto salvation.

24 Receive some Chippewa Hymn books from the Methodist missionaries in Canada. Examine them through. Expect soon to translate some of them into Ottawa and to print them.

1842

January

7 Translate hymns, Br. D[avid] Green assisting me. . . .

8 Translate hymns half of the day. . . .

11 All day translating hymns. . . .

18 All day translating Hymns with Br. D. Green.

February

8 . . . Prepare matter to translate into Ottawa Hymns on to-morrow.

9 Translate Hymns half of the day. . . .

11 Fold up and sew twenty Ottawa Hymn Books.

19 All day translating hymns. . . .

21 Translate Hymns. . . .

25 Finish off 20 Ottawa Hymn books.

26 Copy off Ottawa Hymns for the Press. Shall probably have printed 30 new hymns soon.

March

1 . . . Finish preparing my hymns for the press.

There was much sickness during March—"influenza . . . prevails generally around."

April

4 . . . I read the proof sheet of the second form of the Ottawa hymns.*

May

9 Make preparations all day to start on a journey on to-morrow to Cincinnati with my mother, wife and children. . . .

On May 22nd, Meeker was in Cincinnati. On the 24th he wrote in his journal, " . . . Take a box of printed sheets of various Ottawa and Shawanoe works to be bound," and on June 3rd, "Pack away our Indian books, which I have been getting bound."

On June 24th, the Meekers, leaving their daughter Maria at Cincinnati, started back for Ottawa. They arrived there July 7th.

July

15 . . . Copy off my journal from May 10th to the present time. . . .

* As Meeker makes no mention of doing any work himself on this book, it is presumed that is was sent to Pratt for printing. There is no previous mention of a first form and no further reference to an Ottawa Hymn Book until June 4, 1844. It is assumed, however, that this second book of Ottawa hymns was printed some time in 1842.

23 . . . Receive a letter from, and write to Br. Lykins on the subject of revising the Putawatomie translation.

28 . . . Receive a letter from Br. Lykins, relative to correcting Mss.

August

4 . . . Receive a letter from Br. Lykins, relative to examining the translation.

8 . . . Ride to Br. Simerwell's to assist Br. Lykins in examining his Putawatomie translation. . . .

9 Closely engaged in examining the translation.*

10 All day revising. . . .

11 Get home in the evening. . . .

December

10 . . . Write a draft on the Board for . . . $50 for the Printing Office account.

1843

January

23 . . . Fold sheets for 50 copies of the "Ottawa First Book."

24 Stitch 50 "First Books," and finish off a few. . . .

31 Finish off 50 "Ottawa First Books." . . .

For several months back, Meeker made occasional references in his journal to unexplained differences between Johnston Lykins and the other Baptist missionaries; Robert Simerwell was

* This Potawatomie translation with which Meeker assisted Lykins is probably the latter's "Gospel of Matthew in Putawatomie" reported among the books printed in 1842-1843 (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 23, 1843, p. 139).

also implicated. Meeker was much concerned about them.

In February, Meeker recorded the backsliding of some of his Indian converts to native "conjurers." In March there was a "bad state of things at Shawnee," and much competition with Catholic missionaries. There was also a great deal of sickness.

May

1 . . . Write a Draft on the Board for $65.80 to pay for freight on paper and types.*

July

27 Commence translating John's gospel. Br. David assists me. . . . A general influenza prevails in the neighborhood. . . .

31 . . . Almost every person in this country either has been or now is down with the influenza. . . .

August

Eleven days in August were spent wholly or partly in translating. There was much sickness.

September

The work of translation continued, but with many interruptions.

17 . . . At the church meeting [at Shawanoe, which Meeker attended] our brother J. Lykins was suspended from church fellowship for creating a division in the church, non attendance, &c. . . .

* Although no longer the official printer, Meeker was still the treasurer of the several Baptist missions in the region.

23 . . . Great many are sick all around us. Delawares, Shawnees and Westportans are dying. . . .

October

For the 5th, 7th, 9th, and 10th the entries in the journal include "Translate half of the day."

23 Considerable part of the day am engaged in tearing and folding sheets for the Ottawa first book. . . .

24 Work all day at the first book. Finish making up a lot of 50. . . .

27 Translate all day. . . .

28 Translate half of the day. . . .

November

On the 17th, Meeker's daughter Maria, now a little over nine years old, returned from Cincinnati. On the 19th, Pratt and Blanchard were ordained to the Baptist ministry. The difficulties with Lykins and Simerwell continued.

December

6 . . . Employ David [Green] at revising translation. . . .

12 Commence revising the manuscripts of our translation of John's Gospel. . . . Br. David is taken down violently sick. . . .

13 Revise translation. . . .

15 Employ Jacob Miller* to assist me in revising the translation.

16 Still revising with Jacob. . . .

* An Ottawa Indian.

18 . . . Write a letter to Br. Pratt, and send him ten Chapters of the translation to the printing office for printing.

20 . . . Commence my writing school for the winter.

26 Revise the manuscripts of translation of John. . .

27 Ride . . . to Shawanoe. . . .

28 . . . Half the day comparing our translation of John with the Greek.

29 Closely engaged all day in revising, and comparing with the Greek our Ottawa translation, Br. Barker and Br. Shawboneda assisting. We deliver about twelve Chapters to the printer.

30 . . . We get home at 12 o'clock at night. . . .

1844

January

25 . . . Br. Pratt comes with a proof sheet of 32 pages of John in Ottawa. . . .

26 Spend near all of the day in reading and revising proof sheets. . . .

31 But little hopes of peace being restored in our church.*

February

On the 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 9th, and 12th, Meeker was busy translating all or part of each day.

14 Translate all day. Write with a pen made from an eagle quill which has been painted and used as something very sacred in the Ottawas' medicine dance for several generations and perhaps centuries, presented to me on yesterday by Notino, who has just thrown all his bundle of con-

* Because of difficulties with Lykins and Simerwell.

juring instruments &c. &c. into the breaking up ice, which is rushing down the river. . . .

16 Translate all day, and finish the gospel by John. Very warm.

26 Nearly all day revising the translation with Asees.

29 Arrive at Shawanoe just after the break of day. . . .

March

2 Read proof sheets. . . .

4 Assist in comparing manuscripts with the Greek.

5 Complete the comparing of John's gospel with the Greek. Purchase two Durham cattle and start home with them. . . .

April

12 Engage all day in reading proof sheets with Asees. . . .

13 Finish revising proof. . . .

May

During May, Meeker recorded much rain and high water. He also began the translating of more hymns.

Iune

4 Translate and arrange Ottawa hymns most of the day. Hoe potatoes. . . .

5 Correct and arrange Ottawa hymns for the press.

A few days later, the floods came. The Ottawa settlers, Indians and whites, took refuge in the hills with their cattle and hogs.

13 . . . The water still continues all day to rise. Our smoke house, bee house, chicken houses, stables, corn crib and kitchen, with all that was in them, and also our door yard, garden, orchard, cow pen, calf pasture, potato patch and corn field fences with the peach and apple trees are, we think, all swept off, the current being very strong. . . .

15 . . . Immediate poverty and starvation seems to stare every one in the face. . . .

17 The water having left our house, . . . we remove into it. . . . Nothing left but the dwelling house and office [and these were badly damaged and full of mud and debris].

22 [The Meeker family arrived at Shawanoe Mission, conducted by Brother Pratt, who came for them with a wagon.]

July

Meeker selected a new site for the Ottawa Mission, some two miles north of the previous location.

August

12 Most of the day translating hymns into Ottawa. . . .

13 All day translating hymns, and arranging them for the press.

16 . . . Finish copying my new hymns for the press, and make out an Index, &c.

September

During September, Meeker was rebuilding. Contributions of food, clothing, and money were received from Baptist friends in Cincinnati.

October

More contributions came from Cincinnati—in all, about $1,300 worth was received.

22 Start in my waggon to Shawanoe in company with Asees, expecting to be printing some two weeks.

23 Arrive at Br. Pratt's. Commence work at my Hymn Book.

24 At work all day at distributing and setting types, &c.

25 Setting types all day. . . . Feel almost sick. . . .

26 Make up first form. . . .

28 Work off the first form, and distribute types.

29 All day busy at the types. . . .

30 Read proof and work off the second form, and distribute.

31 Set types. . . .

November

1 Read proof and work off the last form of the Ottawa Hymn Book of 82 Hymns, 500 copies, 96 pages.

4 Load up and start for home with Asees—feel some better.

7 Commence folding sheets for Ottawa Hymns.

8 . . . Am this day 40 years old. My children search in my head for gray hairs, and find but one. . . . Still feel about as strong and hearty as I ever did.

9 Fold sheets for 50 hymn books and stitch a dozen ready for use. . . .

December

4 . . . Sell a draft on the Board for $175, for my half year's salary, ending Dec. 31, 1844. . . .

16 All day folding and stitching a lot of Ottawa First Book.

17 Still work all day at book binding—finish 40 copies of the "Ottawa First Book," and 26 of the "Hymn Book.". . .

1845

Throughout 1845, there is no mention in Meeker's journal of any activities connected in any way with printing or publishing, or even with translating. The spring was unusually early —there was green grass in February. In May the Ottawa Mission buildings were being removed to the new site. In June there were many deaths among the Indians, and much high water. On June 26, "Br. David Green [one of the most faithful of Meeker's converts, and often his assistant in translating into the Ottawa language] while trying to swim across the creek to attend a prayer meeting, was drowned. . . There is no other Ottawa whose sudden death would give such universal shock in the [Ottawa] nation as is now felt." The high water destroyed "nearly all the crops in the country."

On August 1, " . . . Delegates from several churches meet to investigate charges preferred

against Br'n Blanchard, Pratt, Barker and myself. . . ." *On the 9th, Meeker received "the decision of the Big Blue council"—but he recorded neither the nature of the charges, nor the verdict.*

Toward the end of the year, Meeker complained a good deal of headaches. On November 27 he made the following entry: "Have been taking a pill twice a day for a week past composed of 1 gr. quinine, 1 gr. rheubarb, and ½ gr. Blue mass to a pill."

1846

In 1846, also, there is no mention of printing. In April, Meeker started on an extended journey to the East.

April

9 . . . Count out and pack away for binding, sheets for 100 Ottawa Hymn Books, 100 of Matthew's gospel, and 50 of Matthew and John together, all in the Ottawa language.

14 Start on our journey to the east at 10 A.M. in company with Mrs. M. and our two children. . . .

The Meekers were in Cincinnati by May 1st. On May 11th, Meeker "left for the east on board the 'Talisman'," arriving at Pittsburgh on the 14th. Thence on the 15th by "Steamboat Consul on the Monongohala (sic) for Brownville." Leaving Brownville at 6 a.m. "by Good Intent line of stages," Meeker arrived at Cumberland, Maryland, at 9 p.m. and took lodgings there at the Evans House.

On the 18th the traveler left Cumberland at 8 a.m. "in the cars" for Baltimore, 136 miles, where he arrived at 6 p.m. and at 8 embarked on a steamboat for Philadelphia. Arriving at Philadelphia "at 2 or 3 in the morning after traveling in two boats and a car," Meeker journeyed on "by cars and boat" and reached New York City at 1 p.m. on the 19th.

After a short stay in New York, Meeker was in Providence on the 26th and went thence "by cars" to Boston. On the 30th he was back at New York.

On June 2nd, Meeker was at Albany, on his way home. The following day, "at 7½ A.M." he started "on the cars" for Buffalo, where he arrived at 8 the next morning, only to resume his journey at "10½" for Detroit on the steamer "Constitution." He was at "Cleaveland" at 8 the following morning, and left at 2 in the afternoon. On the 6th—only three days from Albany —Meeker was at Detroit, where he stayed a few days. From Toledo on the 11th he traveled by the Miami Canal to Cincinnati, arriving on the 16th after stopovers at Piqua and Dayton.

A week later, on the 24th, Meeker was homeward bound on the steamboat "Swiftsure" for St. Louis. The next day, June 25th, at Louisville, Meeker learned that his old friend and superior, Isaac McCoy, had died in that city four days before. From St. Louis, leaving June 30th on the steamer "Saluda," he arrived at "Kanzas" on

July 4th, and on July 11th, at 9 p.m., was home again at Ottawa, after an absence of 89 days, about 58 of which were spent in traveling. It is interesting to note that he travels in part on railroads.

1847

May

5 . . . Put up a package of Ottawa books for Rev. L. Slater,* Kalamazoo, to the care of Mr. Seth S. Slater, St. Louis, Mo., viz: 1 Chippewa Testament, 12 of the gospel by Matthew, 12 of John, 18 Hymn Books, 6 First Books, and 2 of Matthew and John bound together, in all 50. . . .

There is no other reference to Meeker's books in the journal for 1847. It would be interesting to know what became of this—and one later—consignment of books to the Rev. Mr. Slater.

1848

January

Br. Blanchard's ordination is recalled on the 7th and he and his family are directed to leave as soon as possible—reason, adultery of Br. B.

February

7 The "Ottawa First Books," printed in 1838 having given out, the Indians have been calling for more for over a year past. I commence on to-day the compiling of a new one, that is, to throw out all of the reading matter of the old, and to new model the spelling, and to print in it the Otta-

* Rev. Leonard Slater was a Baptist Missionary among the Ottawas who remained in Michigan.

was' code of laws, &c. It will probably take some weeks, or even months to get it ready for the press. . . .

22 Spend nearly all the day on the Ottawa First Book. . . . Write to [Br. Pratt] and send him all I have prepared for the press of the Ottawa First Book. . . .

March

2 . . . Correct some of the Indian laws, for printing.

3 . . . Translate the Ottawa Laws into English for the press—20 in all.

31 Start for the East at 8 A. M. with my wife and daughter Emeline. . . .

This was a hurried trip. The older daughter, Maria, had been left at Cincinnati when the Meekers were there in 1846. This time the younger, now aged eight and a half years, was also left there, to go to school. The Meekers were back at Ottawa on May 21st.

The preparation of the new Ottawa First Book, with the Ottawa laws, was wholly neglected for the rest of this year.

1849

January

19 Prepare matter to translate for my Ottawa "First Book." Translate a Hymn. . . .

20 Translate some. Give to Br. Turner some of my translations to revise. . . .

February

26 . . . Make preparations to leave home, and go to Stockbridge to print an Ottawa Book. Am waiting for Wm. Turner* who is to go with me who cannot get here on account of high water.

Meeker nowhere mentions in his journal the removal of the Baptist Mission press from Shawanoe to Stockbridge. It was at the latter location, which was near the present city of Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1846. Four Stockbridge imprints are listed in the Bibliography, Nos. 76 to 79.

March

2 Am still waiting for William Turner. . . . Translate hymns into Ottawa. . . .

3 Am engaged nearly all of the day in translating hymns into Indian. . . . William arrives in the evening. We shall probably start for Stockbridge on Monday.

6 . . . We start for Shawanoe at 7½ A.M.

7 . . . At 1, Wm & I start for Delaware . . . get to Br. Pratt's at dusk—find all well. Learn from Br. P. that on last week he took the press, types, &c. all down, and that they are all packed away, and the house is occupied by a family; and as Brn. Barker & Pratt are very solicitous that I take the press to Ottawa, I conclude to do so. Br. Pratt agrees to go soon to Stockbridge, employ someone to remove the office, pack up and assist in getting it started, &c. and we conclude to

* An Indian interpreter.

start for home on to-morrow, and to go to translating more of the scriptures into Ottawa.

12 William and I translate all day on the 1st Chap. of the gospel by Luke. . . .

13 We are closely engaged all day at translating.

14 Translate all day.

15 Translate most of the day. . . . Take my onions out of the ground. . . .

16 Translate most of the day. . . .

17 Translate. Take my seed potatoes out of the ground.

May

In May, Meeker noted the presence of cholera in Missouri and Kansas. On May 18 it was 10 miles from Ottawa.

5 . . . Hunt out a road to haul shingles home for the Pr[inting] Office.

28 . . . Get Washkee to haul a house for the printing office. . . .

29 Assist Washkee in hauling the Office house. . . .

31 A Potawatomie is down with the cholera on the Ottawa land.

June

Cholera appeared among the Potawatomies and Sacs.

12 . . . At 9 P.M. Mrs. M. gives birth to another daughter.*

* This third daughter was named Eliza. As Mrs. W. T. Keith, of Oakland, California, she gave to the Kansas State Historical Society the original of Meeker's journal, with other Meeker papers, in March, 1892.

July

5 . . . Hunt among the Indians for men to put up and finish my house for the printing office. . . .

Symptoms of cholera appeared among Meeker's Ottawa Indians.

27 I with two Indian men build a house for a printing office. . . .

August

16 Lay a floor in the office. . . .

17 . . . Put window glass in the office windows. Hive a swarm of bees.

September

During September, there was much sickness. Meeker himself was unable to do any work.

October

2 Finish putting down the floor in the office. . . .

3 Work some at regulating type cases, &c. in the office. . . .

5 Work some in the office. . . .

6 Put up the printing press and a stove in the office. . . .

The journal does not mention when or how the printing equipment was brought from Stockbridge.

November

5 . . . Fix up stove pipe in the printing office, and lay down boards for the loft. . . .

6 Fix up the office stove pipe. . . .

8 . . . 45 years of my life have passed away. Feel

that I have passed over the summit of life and that I am briskly descending towards the infirmities of old age. During the past year my bodily health, except the sciatica, has been better than for some previous years. . . .

19 Fix a stove pipe through the office roof. . . .

22 . . . Commence filling up Mr. Schoolcraft's Vocabulary for the agent Handy.

23 Finish Handy's Ind. Vocabulary. Work all day at it. . . .

24 . . . Distribute a lot of pi, and commence setting types for the second edition of the "Ottawa First Book."

26 Set types all day on the Ottawa First Book. . . .

27 Work in the office. . . .

29 Work all day in the office. . . . On the day before yesterday weeds in the door yard were in full bloom. Some of the peach, apple, brier, and other leaves were perfectly green. . . .

30 Work in the office. . . .

December

3 . . . Work some in the office. Make a broom, &c.

4 Work all day at the types. . . .

5 All day in the office. . . .

6 Work in the office in the forenoon. . . . In the evening write my accounts with the A. B. M. U. [American Baptist Missionary Union] as Treasurer of Shawanoe Mission, Teacher and Missionary. . . .

7 All day at work in the office. . . .

8 Complete the setting of the types on my "First Book." . . .

10 Make up form. Take proof sheet. . . .

21 Work some in the office. Mary and I chop our sausage meat.

1850

January

9 . . . In the afternoon, distribute types.

11 Work in the office. . . .

14 Work most of the day in the office. . . .

15 Work in the office. . . .

16 Work in the office. . . .

17 Work in the office. . . . Have entrapped six wolves within three weeks.

18 Work in the office. Shawboneda and I write for the press four new Ottawa Laws. In the evening shell corn.

21 . . . Translate into English the late Ottawa Laws.

22 Work in the office all day. . . .

23 . . . Set types all day.

24 Work in the office till noon. . . .

25 Work in the office all day. Employ Jacob Miller* to assist me at proof reading and translating.

On the 26th, 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st, Meeker included the entry "Work in the office."

February

On the 1st, 2nd, 5th, and 7th, Meeker made brief entries of "work in the office."

* An Ottawa Indian.

8 Work in the office till noon. Jacob and I revise manuscript scripture translations and read proof sheets.

9 Revise manuscripts and proof sheets with Jacob all day.

On the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, and 16th, the daily entry included "Work in the office."

18 Work some in the office. . . .

22 Read proof sheets, correct manuscript translations. . . .

25 Work in the office. Make a Roller. . . .

26 Work in the office.

27 Work in the office. . . . Very warm. Bees are working—frogs singing.

March

1 Work in the office. . . .

6 . . . Wet down 10 quires of paper for "First Book."

7 Work in the office. . . .

8 Print 500 copies of the first form of the "Ottawa First Book." Jacob assist[s] me at the Press. In the evening we read proof sheets and revise manuscripts.

9 Jacob and I revise and correct some manuscript Hymns. . . .

11 Work in the office. In the evening . . . Shawboneda . . . and I read a proof sheet of the second form.

12 Work in the office. . . .

13 Work all day in the office.

14 Work off second form of "First Book.". . .

18 Start on my journey to Cincinnati for my Children. . . .

At St. Louis on March 25th, Meeker wrote: "Renew my subscription for the Mis. Weekly Republican. Send a Tel. Dispatch to my brother at Cin."

Meeker arrived at Cincinnati on March 30th and left on April 4th, on the steamer "Pike," which was "crowded to excess with California emigrants with their mules, wagons and other outfits complete." On April 9th he left St. Louis on the steamer "Bay State"—"with about 300 passengers, most of whom are bound for California."

April

13 . . . Arr. at Kansas at 11 P.M. . . .

15 . . . Go in a hack to Shawanoe. . . .

On the 18th, Meeker was home again at Ottawa, after an absence of just a month.

24 Take up the office floor and lay a new floor of planks & slabs.

May

2 Distribute types in the forenoon. . . .

6 Work most of the day in the Office. . . . California emigrants pass us more and more every day.

7 Work in the office. . . .

8 . . . 50 or 60 Cal. wagons pass us.

27 Have Jacob to assist me at translating in Luke's Gospel. . . .

28 Jacob and I complete the translation of Luke, or such portions as are omitted by Matthew and John.

29 Am engaged nearly all day at setting types. . . .

30 Work in the office. . . .

31 Work all day in the office. . . .

June

1 Finish the setting of the types of the translation of Luke's Gospel. . . .

3 Read proof with Shawboneda. . . .

4 . . . Correct proof sheet. . . .

5 Revise Proof Sheet. Hoe Potatoes. . . .

6 . . . Make up a form of 32 pages. . . .

7 Adjust some 25 pages of the last form of the "First Book." Make a Composition Roller. . . .

10 Jacob and I revise the proof sheet, correct the form and print off a part of it.

11 Finish the working off of the third form of the "First Book." . . .

13 Finish setting types on the "First Book," & take a proof sheet of the last form. . . .

14 Read proof, correct and revise with Pahtee, Shawboneda and Washkee. . . .

17 Revise and correct. . . .

18 Work off the last form of the "First Book." . . .

25 Count out 200 copies of the First [Book] to send to St. L[ouis] for binding, and 50 for Br. Slater's Inds. . . .

27 Stitch a few copies of the "First Book." . . .

28 Pack away a lot of "First Book" sheets in a box

to send to St. Louis for binding, and another lot for Br. Slater. . . .Finish off a few copies for temporary use for the Inds. Hoe sweet potatoes.

July

2 Print about 75 copies of 3 hymns for our approaching Meeting. . . .

5 Br. Pratt and Grandison arrive from Delaware—they bring the balance of the printing materials. . . .

9 Work in the office. . . .

10 Work most of the day in the office. Pack away Br. Pratt's great masses of pi. . . .

12 Work in the office. . . .

13 Work in the office in the forenoon. . . .

15 Commence setting types on the Hymn Book. . . .

17 All day at work in the office. . . .

18 Work in the office. . . .

19 Work in the office. . . .

20 Take proof of the first form of the Hymn Book. . . . Mercury up to 102.

For the 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 26th the brief entry "Work in the office" is included in the daily records.

27 Finish setting the types of the 2nd form of the Hymns. Take and read proof. . . .

28 . . . Compose some Ind. Hymns.

29 Jacob and I read 64 pages of proof sheet of Hymns. Am very much bothered at making a Roller.

30 Correct form. Make a new Roller. . . .

31 Work off 1st form of 500 Copies of the Hymns. Make up, and prepare for press the 2nd form.

August

1 Work off 2nd Form. Jacob and I sow and harrow in an acre and a half of Turnip Seeds. . . .
2 Work in the office most of the day. . . .
3 Work in the office. . . .
4 . . . The Mercury to-day is up to 104½. . . .
5 Work all day in the office. Mercury up to 104.
6 Work in the office. . . . Mer. at 105.
7 Work in the office. . . .
8 Work in the office. . . . The Mercury to-day rises to 106.
9 Work in the office. . . .
10 Work a few hours in the office. . . . Mercury up to 107.
11 . . . Mer. up to 110. The Thermometer hangs on the north side of the house.
12 Work in the office. . . . Finish setting types on the Ottawa Hymn Book. . . . Mercury to-day at 107.
13 Read Proof and Correct. . . . The prairie is burning all around us. Mercury at 108.
14 Print 3rd form. Make up and take proof of the last form. . . .
15 . . . It is cooler to-day. Jacob and I work off the last form of the "Ottawa Hymn Book" of 127 pages, containing 111 Hymns. . . .
19 . . . Receive my "First Book" 200 Copies just bound at St. Louis. Distribute about 25 of them to the Ottawas. . . .

20 Put up and send off for St. Louis to be bound 250 "Ottawa Hymn Books" and send 50 to Br. Slater of Michigan.

The St. Louis binder to whom these books were sent was R. H. Stone. Meeker did not make a note of the date of the return of the bound books.

31 . . . Mercury down to 54.

September

2 . . . Mercury this morning at 39. . . .

During September, October, and November, Meeker from time to time commented on the dryness of the season. The creeks stopped running after June 1, and wells went dry.

November

26 Work in the office. Clean up the office and distribute types, preparatory to printing a missing form of Br. Barker's translation of Matthew. . . .

27 Work in the office. . . .

30 Commence setting types on Br. Barker's C form of Matthew in Shawanoe. . . .

December

2 . . . Work some in the office. . . .

10 Set types all day on Br. Barker's Shawanoe Matthew. . . .

For the 11th, 12th, and 13th, the journal includes the brief notation "Work in the office."

14 Finish Br. Barker's C form of Matthew, make

up the form, read most of the Proof sheet, letter by letter, with Emeline.*

16 Work in the office—correct form and take another proof sheet to send to brother Barker. Write off an Almanac to print for the Ottawas for 1851.

17 Work in the office till noon. . . .

18 Work till noon in the office. . . .

1851

January

6 Make a new printing Roller. Wet down some paper for Br. Barker's for[m] C of Matthew. . . .

7 Correct Shawanoe form. Finish setting up the Ottawa Almanac. Clean up the Pr. Office.

8 Work off alone Br. Barker's C form of Matthew in Shawanoe, 200 copies.† Also print about 40 Ottawa Almanacs for 1851. . . .

9 . . . Print about 40 Shawanoe, 40 Delaware, and 60 English Almanacs. . . .

For two years, or not until January, 1853, Meeker did not again touch type. In the intervening time, his oldest daughter, Maria, at the age of a little over seventeen, was married on December 10, 1851, to Nathan L. Simpson, of Westport, Missouri. On September 22, 1852, Meeker's first grandson was born. Meeker himself had become much more of a farmer than

* Meeker's second daughter, now a little over eleven years old.

† Meeker did not record what disposition was made of "Bro. Barker's C form of Matthew" after he had printed it.

anything else, and at times reproached himself in his journal for his loss of missionary zeal.

1852

December

3 At the request of some of the principal men of the Ottawas, I spend the day at condensing and copying their old Treaties, with the view of their being translated and printed in their own language. The two last & longest of the Treaties, I have not yet copied. . . .

4 Revise and correct, with J. King, my Treaties.

20 . . . Shawboneda spends the evening with me, examining all of the old Ottawa Treaties. He wishes me to write a Synopsis of them all, to translate and print, and make up into small books.

24 . . . Write some on the old Ottawas' Treaties. . . .

30 Spend nearly all the day and evening at translating the Ottawa Treaties.

31 Finish translating the old "Treaties."

1853

January

8 Translate the last of the Ottawa Treaties. . . .

21 Clean the Printing Office, put up the stove, and commence setting types on the Ottawa Treaties. Shell corn in the evening.

24 Work at setting types. . . .

25 Set types one hour, but owing to my feeling very unwell, I stop. . . .

26 Work in the office. . . .

29 Complete the setting of the types on the Ottawa Treaties. . . .

31 Take proof sheets of the Treaties. . . .

For four months, other duties took the place of further work on the printing of the treaties.

June

4 Read & correct the proof sheet of "Ottawa Treaties" & distribute some types. . . .

6 Work half a day in the office. . . .

7 Print 50 copies of the "Ottawa Treaties" in Ottawa, 15 pages.

8 Iron, fold & stitch the "Treaties," and bind 20 of them. . . .

28 . . . Write to a Mr. Patton of Independence relative to the Printing Press.

July

4 Set types on some School Cards, &c. for Miss Morse's School.

8 . . . Work some in the office. . . .

9 Print off two large Alphabets and a large Card for Miss Morse's School. . . .

11 . . . Prepare a lot of the Ottawa Treaty Books for the Indians. . . .

For nine months following this entry, there was no more printing.

1854

May

4 Commence cleaning and regulating the Printing Office, preparatory to printing Hymns, &c. for the Shawanoes. I have not done any printing since last summer. . . .

6 Work some at cleaning and regulating the printing office. . . .

For two weeks, Meeker was crippled with sciatica and did little work. In his journal he noted the passage of several parties of California emigrants, with droves of cattle.

22 Work some at cleaning the Office, and at distributing types, &c. . . .

23 Distribute types. . . .

25 Distribute types. . . .

26 Set types on the Shawanoe Hymn Book. . . .

Meeker also noted here an eclipse of the sun.

27 Set types. . . .

29 Work at the types. . . .

30 Work in the Office. . . .

31 Commence smoking my hams. Set types. . . .

June

1 . . . Learn that Nebraska and Kansas Territories are organized. . . .*

3 Set types. . . .

5 . . . Work in the office. . . .

6 Work near all the day at the types. . . .

7 Set types. . . .

9 Work some in the office. . . .

10 Take four impressions of the first 32 pages of the Shawanoe Hymn Book, for Proof Sheets. My lame hip is very sore to-day.

12 Set types. . . .

* The Kansas-Nebraska Bill was signed by President Pierce on May 30th, 1854.

13 Finish setting types on the Shawanoe Hymn Book & take proof sheets.

17 . . . Am so crippled I do almost nothing. . . . All of a sudden, we are to be surrounded by white settlements.

18 Adjoining the Ottawa line, whiskey shops have been opened. . . .

Meeker was somewhat concerned about the influx of new settlers, some of them undesirable. On the 30th he decided to make entry on 160 acres for himself. His attention to printing became rather intermittent.

July

13 Clean up the office, and commence distributing Mr. Pratt's Pi.

Prairie fires were a menace during July.

August

18 Clean the office, and correct the two Shawanoe Hymn Forms. . . .

September

5 A Mr. Miller staid with us last night—he came to try to buy our printing establishment to commence his "*Kansas Free State*" but the Press being too small he does not buy. . . .

During September, Meeker became a very sick man. On November 8, he duly noted the passing of his fiftieth birthday. The Shawanoe Hymn Book apparently remained where he left it in August—Meeker was to do no more print-

ing. A few more extracts from the journal conclude the story.

November

27 Write a letter to Messrs G. W. Brown & Co. and subscribe for their "*Herald of Freedom*," published at Wakarusa,* K. T.

December

8 . . . Can scarcely eat or see or talk. . . .

1855

January

1 Have a severe cold — lungs very sore — hard cough. . . .

4 At 10 o clock of last night I was taken with a chill. . . . think it was the hardest chill I ever had. . . .

Here the journal of Jotham Meeker ceases. He died January 12, 1855, aged fifty-one years, two months, and four days.

* The name of Wakarusa was very soon changed to Lawrence.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

OF THE

BAPTIST MISSION PRESS

Bibliography

[Shawanoe hymn] [1]

By Alexander Evans. Meeker Journal, March 8, 1834. This is the first recorded printing on the Meeker press.

[Shawanoe alphabet and hymns] [2]

By Evans. Meeker Journal, March 10, 1834. Mentioned by Pilling ("fifty copies") in *Algonquin Languages*, p. 355.

[Delaware alphabet and syllabary] [3]

By I. D. Blanchard. "About 50 copies." Probably from the type set for No. 4. Meeker Journal, March 12, 1834.

Linapi'e | lrkvekun, | apwivuli kavuni vawinj wato. | Opvaloqrpeas, | nelahi Maneto. | [*Filet*] | Jybni krkw kuski wehumul nrkek Linapruk. | [*Filet*] | Shawnee Mission. | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1834. [4]

9 x 14.5 cm. 24 p. Printed paper covers.

Cover title: Linapi'e | lrkvekun. | Apwivuli Kavuni. | [*Filet*] | [*5 lines in Delaware*].

On verso of title page, Key to the Delaware Alphabet. Text entirely in Delaware: Primer lessons, pp. 3-17; "Akunotasekc a Linapruk" (in verses numbered 1 to 68), pp. 18-24. On back cover, Arabic figures 1 to 100 and four lines in Delaware.

By I. D. Blanchard. Number of copies not mentioned. This is the first book printed in the Territory, according to the Meeker Journal, March 21, 1834. It is also the only known

instance of the spelling "Shawnee" in the imprints of the Baptist mission press at Shawanoe.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 314.

New York Public Library. Boston Athenaeum.

[Proposal forms] [5]

"Proposals for furnishing provisions to the Shawnees for the Indian agent." Meeker Journal, March 21, 1834.

[Shawanoe First Book] [6]

By Evans. 300 copies, 1 form and cover. Meeker Journal, March 28 and 29, and April 4, 1834.

[Shawanoe hymns and prayers] [7]

By Evans. 50 copies (possibly reprinted from No. 6). Meeker Journal, April 8, 1834.

[Three Delaware hymns] [8]

By I. D. Blanchard. 100 copies. Meeker Journal, May 23, 1834.

Wlkr | Potrwatome | msina'kin; | kewrnpinukatr. | Siseminwrn, | okena'ton. | Tr'min Kesis—1834 tso Pponkit pe Kanekit | Hesus. | [*Filet*] | Shawannoe Mission, | J. Meeker, Printer, | 1834. [9]

9.5 x 16 cm. 32 p. Printed paper covers.

Text entirely in Potawatomie. "Explanation of the Putawatomie (*sic*) Characters," pp. 31-32.

Cover title identical with title page excepting for the omission of the words "Tr'min . . . Hesus." On back cover, Arabic numerals 1 to 10, and multiplication table in abbreviated form.

By Robert Simerwell. 325 copies, 3 forms and cover. Meeker Journal, May 16, June 2 and 26, 1834.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 363.

Boston Athenaeum (*2 copies*).

[Three Shawanoe hymns] [10]

For the Methodist mission. 100 copies. Meeker Journal, June 25 and 26, 1834.

[Prospectus for the *Indian Advocate*] [11]

For Isaac McCoy. "Upwards of 1,200" copies. Meeker Journal, August 11-12, 1834.

See also No. 17.

"Still anxious to issue a print from the Indian territory, to be circulated through the United States, for the purpose of eliciting sympathy for the Indians, and promoting just views respecting measures for their improvement, I issued, in August [1834], proposals for publishing a semi-monthly periodical, to be entitled "The Indian Advocate." It appeared that the press at Shawanoe would be so thronged with printing Indian books, that the work could not issue regularly from it; I therefore endeavored to get a printer and press specially for this new publication. I had hoped that a printer could be found who, from kindness to the Indians, would make his terms of compensation easy. I opened extensive correspondences, with the view of employing such an one, but without success. Among subscribers for the work were some of the first men in the country; nevertheless, the subscription list was too small to meet the expense of publication, and the design was necessarily postponed, but not abandoned." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, p. 479; written about 1839.)

[Shawanoe alphabet and syllabary] [12]

For Thomas Johnson, Methodist missionary. 200 copies. Meeker Journal, August 16, 1834.

Siwinowe | eawekitake. | [*Filet*] | Liekens | Wastoti. | [*Filet*] | [*2 lines in Shawnee*] | [*Filet*] | Shawannoe Mission, | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1834. [13]

8 x 14 cm. 42 p. Printed paper covers.

Cover title: Siwinowe | eawekitake. | Cinstin Liekens, | Wastoti. | Pokimiwe Kesbwi. | Shawannoe Mission, | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1834.

On verso of title page, Key to the Shawannoe Characters. Text in Shawnee: Spelling lessons, pp. 3-4; Bible stories in easy reading lessons, pp. 5-32; reading lessons, pp. 33-42. On back cover, numerals 1 to 23 in Arabic figures and Shawnee words.

By Johnston Lykins. 300 copies, 3 forms. Meeker Journal, August 7 and 30, 1834.

See No. 21, below.

Pilling, *Algonquin Languages*, p. 320.

Henry E. Huntington Library.

[Otoe First Book] [14]

For Moses Merrill. 300 copies, 1 form (12 pages) and cover. "This is the fifth Indian book I have printed." Meeker Journal, September 6, 1834. The other four are doubtless Nos. 4, 6, 9, and 13.

Mentioned (without title or description) in Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 356

[Large Otoe alphabets, for school cards] [15]

For Moses Merrill. 50 copies. Meeker Journal, September 8, 1834.

Wdtwhtl | wdwdklha tva | eva wdhonetl. | Marin awdofka. | [*Filet*] | Otoe | Hymn Book. | By Moses Merrill. | [*Filet*] | Shawannoe Mission. | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1834. [16]

9 x 14 cm. 12 p. Printed paper covers.

Cover title: Wdtwhtl | wdwdklha tva | eva| wdhonetl. | [*Filet*] | Shawannoe Mission, | J. Meeker, Printer, | 1834.

On back of title page an Otoe syllabary. On back cover, Arabic numerals with sentences in Otoe.

300 copies (1 form?), "14 hymns and cover." Meeker Journal, September 13, 1834.

Pilling, *Siouan Languages*, p. 50.

Boston Athenaeum. The Henry E. Huntington Library and the Library of Congress have reprint published in 1892 by S. P. Merrill, of Rochester, N. Y., a son of the missionary.

[Prospectus for the *Indian Advocate*, second edition]
[17]

For Isaac McCoy. 1,080 copies. Meeker Journal, September 23 and 24, 1834.

See also No. 11.

The following, from the cover pages of the *Annual Register of Indian Affairs*, No. 1, January, 1835 (see No. 22, below), is possibly a reprint of this Prospectus:

PROPOSALS

For publishing, on the Kauzau river, within the Indian Territory, west of the state of Missouri, and three hundred miles west of St. Louis, a semi-monthly periodical, to be entitled

THE INDIAN ADVOCATE

Devoted Chiefly to Indian Affairs

[Here follows an exposition of the reasons for publishing the proposed periodical.]

The Indian Advocate will be printed on new types, upon a super-royal sheet, in quarto form, suitable for binding.

A portion of it will contain the most interesting news of the day, for the benefit of readers within, and near to, the Indian Territory. The greater portion of it will consist of original articles, or such selections from documents, not in common use, as will occasion much labor.

The first number will be issued as soon as the subscription list will justify it. The remote location of the office will unavoidably occasion a delay of a few months in hearing from distant subscribers.

The price to subscribers will be two dollars per annum, in advance, or $2.50 at the end of the year.

Any person forwarding $10 in advance will be entitled to six copies for one year.

Communications will be made to the undersigned, (who is associated with others,) addressed to Westport, Jackson county, Missouri.

☞It is respectfully requested that the Post Office of each subscriber be distinctly stated, and that a return of the names be made as early as practicable.

ISAAC M'COY.

August, 1834.

☞They who are favorable to the design of the above Prospectus, will confer a favor by procuring subscribers, and forwarding their names.

Linapie | lrkvekun, | ave | apwatuk. | Wunhi | nrtyrkvekrs—Maneto. | [*Filet*] | Jrpuna bni lipwrokun. | [*Filet*] | Shawannoe Mission, | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1834. [18*a*]

9 x 15 cm. 48 p. Printed paper covers.

On verso of title page, Key to the Delaware Alphabet. Text entirely in Delaware: Primer lessons, pp. 3-6; Scripture lessons, prayers, etc., pp. 7-48. On back cover, "Laswe," followed by 16 lines in Delaware.

By I. D. Blanchard. 300 copies, 4 forms and cover ("50 pages, including cover"). Meeker Journal, October 28, 1834.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 314.

New York Public Library. Massachusetts Historical Society. Watkinson Library, Hartford, Conn. (James Hammond Trumbull copy).

[Linapie wawipoetakse ave apwatuk. Shawanoe Mission, J. Meeker, Printer, 1834] [18*b*]

18mo. 48 p.

Title reconstructed by Pilling (*Algonquian Languages*, p. 314) from Schoolcraft's *Bibliographical Catalogue* (1849), No. 66, where it is entered as follows: "Lenapie Wawaipoetakse ave Apwatuk. First lessons in the Delaware. J. Meeker. Baptist Shawanoe Mission. 1 vol., 18mo. 48 pages. A.D. 1934." Undoubtedly the same as No. 18*a*.

[Traders' licenses] [19]

For "Maj. Cummins." Meeker Journal, October 29, 1834.

SIWI'NOWE

EAWEKITAKE.

LIEKENS

Wastoti.

Wi pi me ko we ko ce ea la kw' kwi ki me kw' ce kea wi-
pin se pwi. He wi Ce ses.

SHAWANNOE MISSION,

J. Meeker, Printer.

1834.

Title page of the first book printed by Meeker in the Shawnee language. See No. 13 in the Bibliography.

[Three prayers and seven hymns] [20]

By Johnston Lykins, to be added to his Shawanoe Book. Meeker Journal, December 12, 1834.

Forms pp. 43-54 of No. 21, below.

Siwinowe | eawekitake. | [*Filet*] | Liekens | Wastoti. | [*Filet*] | [*2 lines in Shawnee*] | Shawannoe Mission, | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1834. [21]

9 x 14 cm. 54 p. Printed paper covers.

Cover title: Siwinoe | eawekitake. | Cinstin Liekens, Wastoti. Pokimiwe Kesbwi. | [*Filet*] | Shawannoe Mission, | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1834.

On verso of title page, Key to the Shawannoe Characters. Text in Shawnee: Primer lessons, pp. 3-42; a section headed "Mimitomawani," pp. 43-46; hymns, pp. 47-54. On back cover, Arabic numerals 1 to 23 and Shawnee words.

Evidently the same as No. 13 but with the addition of No. 20. See Meeker Journal, December 12, 1834.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 320.

Boston Athenaeum.

The | Annual Register | of | Indian Affairs | within | the Indian (or Western) Territory. | [*Filet*] | Published by | Isaac M'Coy. | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission House, Ind. Ter. | January 1, 1835. | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Mission, | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1835. [22]

13 x 20 cm. 48 p. Printed gray paper covers.

Title and front cover headed in upper right corner "No. 1." Front cover has above title (in a slightly condensed make-up) followed, below a double rule, with the lines: "This Periodical contains two sheets.—Postage under 100 miles, 3 cents; | over 100, 5 cents."

1,000 copies, 4 forms and cover. Meeker Journal, January 17, 1835.

LINAPIE

LRKVEKUN,

AVE

APWATUK.

WUNHI

NRTYRKVEKRS—MANETO.

JRPUNA BNI LIPWROKUN.

SHAWANNOE MISSION,

J. MEEKER, PRINTER.

1831.

Title page of No. 18a in the Bibliography.

"Unable to get a printing press in operation, either in the Cherokee or Shawanoe country, from which we could publish a semi-monthly periodical, I resolved to supply its place, as far as possible, by an annual publication, entitled "The Annual Register of Indian Affairs within the Indian Territory." The first number of this work was published in the fore part of January, 1835. . . .

" . . . I published it at my own cost and circulated it gratuitously. One was sent to each member of Congress, and to each principal man in the executive departments of Government.

"I requested the board [of missions] to allow it to be printed on their press, and published with cost to me, upon the same principle upon which they printed other missionary matters prepared by other missionaries; but this they declined. I therefore purchased the paper, and paid Mr. Meeker for printing. It is but just, however, to state that the charges were more reasonable by about twenty dollars on the whole, than if the work had been performed at another printing office." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, pp. 481-482.)

Henry E. Huntington Library. Kansas State Historical Society. Newberry Library (Ayer Collection). New York Public Library. Library of Congress. New York Historical Society.

[Potawatomie Second Book] [23]

By Robert Simerwell. 100 copies, 1 form (8 pages). Meeker Journal, January 17, 1835.

From Simerwell's journal (MS, Kansas State Historical Society): [January, 1835] "18. The last week and part of the previous was spent in preparing a small book of 8 pages in Putawatomie not being able to get it printed before Br M[eeker] goes to the east I set up the types my self and got him to take the impression; this little book is intended as a medium for learners between the alphabet and reading."

[Methodist Shawanoe First Book] [24]

For Mr. Johnson, Methodist missionary. 500 copies, 3 forms (32 pages) and cover. Meeker Journal, February 3, 1835.

THE No. 1.

ANNUAL REGISTER

OF

INDIAN AFFAIRS

WITHIN

THE INDIAN (OR WESTERN) TERRITORY.

PUBLISHED BY

ISAAC M'COY.

SHAWANOE BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE, IND. TER.

JANUARY 1, 1835.

SHAWANOE MISSION:

J. MEEKER, PRINTER.

1835.

Title page of the first issue (1835) of Isaac McCoy's *Annual Register*. See No. 22 in the Bibliography.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [25]

The *Shawanoe Sun,* a small newspaper in Shawnee.

First issue, for March, 1835. Meeker Journal, February 24, 1835.

"March 1st, 1835, the first number of a semi-monthly newspaper, printed at the Shawanoe mission house, in the Shawanoe language, was issued. This was the first newspaper ever published exclusively in an Indian language. It was entitled *Shau-wau-nowe Kesauthwau,* (Shawanoe Sun.) It was small, only a quarter sheet, was written upon the new system, and edited by Mr. Lykins. The disadvantages under which it was prepared for the press were great, and the labor considerable; which accounts for its diminutive size.

"Many of the Shawanoes had, by this time, become readers of their own language, and in this periodical they soon took a deep interest, and sometimes contributed matter for it from their own pens. These writers were adults, who lately had been wholly ignorant of letters in any language, and who had recently learned to read and write their own. This they had done without regular attendance on instruction, which, in their circumstances, could only be imparted by occasional visits. The facility with which they acquired a knowledge of reading, and some of them of writing, was alone attributable to the simplicity of the new system." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions,* p. 486.)

[Otoe Third Book] [26]

By Moses Merrill. 300 copies, 2 forms (25 pages) and cover. Meeker Journal, March 14, 1835.

Mentioned (without title or description) in Pilling, *Algonquian Languages,* p. 356.

[New Shawanoe hymns] [27]

By Johnston Lykins. 200 copies, 8 pages. Meeker Journal, March 19, 1835. Probably the "small hymn book" mentioned by Pilling, *Algonquian Languages,* p. 355.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [28]

Shawanoe Sun, second issue, for April, 1835. Meeker Journal, March 26, 1835.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [29]

Shawanoe Sun, third issue, for May, 1835. Meeker Journal, May 2, 1835.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [30]

Shawanoe Sun, fourth issue, for June, 1835. Meeker Journal, June 1, 1835.

[Handbills] [31]

For J. C. McCoy. 30 copies. Meeker Journal, June 6, 1835.

Potrwatome | nkumwinin, | epe | natotatewinin. | [*Filet*] | Siseminwrn epe Norqit, | okena'tonawa. | [*Filet*] | Pukon Kesis, 1835. | [*Filet*] | [*3 lines in Potawatomie*] | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission: | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1835. [32]

10 x 16 cm. 84 p.

On verso of title page, "Explanation of the Putawatomic Characters." Page 84, headed "Index," contains the first lines of hymns on pp. 47-83, with metres and page references. "Norqit" in the title was Noaquett (English name, Luther Rice), Simerwell's Potawatomie interpreter.

By Robert Simerwell (catechism and hymn book). 400 copies, 5 forms (no cover mentioned). Meeker Journal, July 9, 1835.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 464.

Boston Athenaeum (*2 copies*). The Kansas State Historical Society has a folded but unstitched sheet containing pp. 65-80.

[Creek First Book] [33]

By John Davis. 32 pages, 2 forms and cover. Meeker Journal, May 26 and (covers) July 20, 1835. The edition was 1,000 copies (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 15, 1835, p. 453).

" . . . In November, 1934, Mr. Lykins, with the consent of the board, wrote to Mr. Davis, among the Creeks, invit-

ing him to come to the Shawanoe station, for the purpose of preparing some prints on the new system, which he might introduce among his people. A similar request was made of the Choctaw missionary [Sampson Burch]. . . .

"On the 2nd of May [1835] Mr. Davis arrived, accompanied by the Choctaw. They remained at the Shawanoe station about three months, in which time Mr. Davis and Mr. Lykins compiled a school book in Choctaw [*sic;* should be "*Creek*"], and translated into that language the Gospel of John, both of which were printed. [Nos. 33 and 36.] Also, Mr. Lykins, with the assistance of the Choctaw, compiled a book in that language [No. 35], which was also printed by Mr. Meeker, all upon the new system.

"These Indian brethren were furnished with a small wagon, in which they transported their books to their respective places. Mr. Davis, on his return, had the mortification to find the introduction of his books into use among his people opposed by the Rev. Mr.—— [*sic*], a missionary of another denomination in his immediate neighborhood, who had formed an unfavorable opinion of the utility of the system. Mr. Davis, however, succeeded so far as to make an experiment, which fully satisfied him and others interested that the utility of the system, should it be fairly tried, would far exceed their first anticipations." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions,* pp. 486-487.)

Mentioned (without title or description) in Pilling, *Algonquian Languages,* p. 356.

[Cards]. [34]

For Dr. [James Andrew] Chute. Meeker Journal, July 23, 1835.

Cahta | holisso, | cikosi aikhana. | [*Filet*] | [*2-line Scripture quotation, in Choctaw*] | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission, Ind. Ter. | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1835. [35]

10.5 x 15.5 cm. 60 p., last page blank. Printed gray paper covers.

Cover title (in typographic border): Cahta | holisso, | cikosi | aikhana | aima | nompoli mikmut atoala | [*Filet*] Sha-

CAHTA

HOLISSO,

CIKOSI AIKHANA.

Had il a kos tin in cad ke; a ba mig-ko a-
pih li ci ka io kut o lag li si a lad ke.—*Matt. III. 2.*

SHAWANOE BAPTIST MISSION, IND. TER.

J. MEEKER, PRINTER.

1835.

Title page of the extremely rare Choctaw book printed by Meeker in 1835. See No. 35 in the Bibliography.

wanoe Baptist Mission, | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1835. On fourth page of cover, 6 verses in Choctaw, in typographic border. On reverse of title page: Advertisement. | [*Filet*] | First Part, Compiled by the assistance of | Sampson Burch; mostly from a print in Choc- | taw, published in 1830, Boston | Second Part, Hymns compiled by Sampson | Burch.

"Work off the last form of Br. Birch's Choctaw Book, ... thus completing the first Choctaw book of 61 pages, 1000 copies" (Meeker Journal, July 9, 1835). The "61 pages" may include the fourth page of the cover, containing 6 verses of a hymn in Choctaw. But this does not explain why this matter was printed on the cover while page [60] of the book was left blank.

"Rev. Sampson Burch, a native Choctaw, is located on Red river, at which place he arrived in the summer of 1835" (*Annual Register of Indian Affairs*, No. 1, 1835, p. 7).

"The book in Choctaw was not brought into use. While it was preparing for the press, we received information that the moral character of the Choctaw [Sampson Burch] had been impeached by reports among his own people. The board, at our instance, discontinued him in their employ, after the expiration of one year. . . . The Choctaw brother was, not long afterwards, called to the other world." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, p. 487.)

Mentioned (without title or description) in Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 356. The original of 1830 is listed in *Muskhogean Languages*, p. 99.

Kansas State Historical Society.

Heeat | oponaka hera | Cane | coeatetest, | [*Filet*] | momen | mata oponakan | Cane Tyfet, Canetan Liken, | tepake | Maskoke ponaka | escoeatest. | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission, Ind. Ter. | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1835. [36]

8.5 x 13 (?) cm. 190 p.

Translation in handwriting on New York Public Library copy: This | Word Good | John | wrote | and | That Word | John Davis, Johnathan [*sic*] Lyken | Together | Muskoke Language | wrote in.

By John Davis and Johnston Lykins. 1,000 copies, 6 forms, "making a book of 192 pages." Bound by Meeker. Meeker Journal, August 12 and 22, 1835.

Pilling, *Muskhogean Languages*, p. 28.

New York Public Library.

[First Iowa Reading Book] [37]

For Joseph Kerr, Presbyterian missionary. 31 pages and cover. Meeker Journal, August 13 and 28, 1835. 250 copies (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 15, 1835, p. 453).

This is probably the work referred to in the following letter from Mr. Kerr, addressed to "Mr. Meeker, Baptist Shawnee Mission House":

Wea Mission Station
July 1st 1835

Mr Meeker
Dear friend

Mr. Lykens mentioned to me some two weeks ago that you would probably not have any book about this time to print and as you had an assistant you would like to keep the press employed

Our Iauay Station is now occupied, & I send this line to request you if at leisure to strike off for us Mr. Merels [Merrill's] two little books—Throw the two into one—or if there be now a third, select from it all the hymns & prayers it may contain & embody them in the book. Two or three hundred would be enough, but if the price would be but little more you may print a larger number—if the difference however should be several dollars you need not publish so many

If you have any certain knowledge that Mr. Merrel will want any more copies of these two elementary books printed & that he will have them printed any time during the summer or fall you may leave printing for us until then—as you could unite together & thus reduce the price—If you have no certainty of this however, go on to print—

Joseph Kerr

(From Meeker correspondence, preserved in the Kansas State Historical Society.)

The Merrill books referred to are Nos. 14 and 16, above.

[Presbyterian Wea First Book] [38]

For Joseph Kerr, Presbyterian missionary. 250 copies, 3 forms (42 pages) and cover. Meeker Journal, October 9, 1835.

See also the Journal for July 8, August 27 and 28, and September 10, 1835.

"A Presbyterian missionary [Joseph Kerr] among the Weas compiled a small book, which was printed upon our press. He knew it would be rejected by the Indians, as unnecessarily obscure, if he wrote wholly upon the plan of spelling, yet, so tenacious was he of what had appeared right to his brethren from the Choctaw country, that he introduced some of their new formed characters; and as we neither possessed nor desired to possess such types, having no use for them, he furnished them himself. He therefore approached so nearly to the new system as to make his book acceptable to the Indians, and yet departed so far that it was not fully the same." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, p. 476.)

Not listed by Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, under *Wea*, p. 523, although he gives the foregoing quotation from McCoy on p. 356.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [39]

Shawanoe Sun, fifth issue, for October, 1835. Meeker Journal, October 20, 1835.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [40]

Shawanoe Sun, sixth issue, for December, 1835. "Contains seven communications from as many Shawnees." Meeker Journal, November 21, 1835.

The | Annual Register | of | Indian Affairs | within | the Indian (or Western) Territory. | [*Filet*] | Published by | Isaac M'Coy. | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission House, Indian Territory, | January 1, 1836. | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission, Ind. Ter. | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1836. [41]

14 x 23 cm. 88 p. Printed gray paper covers

Title and front cover headed in upper right corner "No. 2." 1,500 copies, 8 forms and cover ("91 pages"). Meeker Journal, December 9, 1835.

"In December, 1835, the second number of the Annual Register of Indian Affairs was published, and the expense defrayed by the board [of missions]." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, p. 492. See also Meeker Journal, April 21 and August 5, 1835.)

Henry E. Huntington Library. Kansas State Historical Society. Newberry Library (Ayer Collection). Library of Congress. New York Historical Society. Missouri Historical Society. Robert M. Snyder, Jr.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [42]

Shawanoe Sun, seventh issue, for January, 1836. Meeker Journal, December 24, 1835.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [43]

Shawanoe Sun, eighth issue, for February, 1836. Meeker Journal, February 18, 1836.

[Horse bills] [44]

For "Mr. Yoacham." Meeker Journal, April 26, 1836.

[Delaware hymns] [45]

By I. D. Blanchard. 800 copies, 24 pages. Meeker Journal, June 21, 1836.

The | Gospel | according to | Saint Matthew. | Translated | into the | Shawanoe language | by | Johnston Lykins. | [*Filet*] | Revised and compared with the received | Greek text, | by J. A. Chute, M.D. | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission, Ind. Ter. | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1836. [46*a*]

10 x 16 cm. 32 p.

On verso of title page: Owase | opeaticemowa | Ceses Kliest, | tapalamalikwa okwebile. | Mabew | otiwekiti. | [*Filet*]

| Cinstin Liekins, | lieipiwekitiki. | [*Filet*] | Ealimapeaskiki, chena pinete, | chena cose, | Nieitimiwicke. | [*Filet*] | 1836.

Composition on this book began January 13, 1836, but it was left unfinished. On February 10th Meeker included in his report to the Board of Missions "a part of the gospel by Matthew, in Shawanoe, 32 pp., 500 copies" (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 16, 1836 p. 129). About 85 copies of this incomplete book were made up and issued, with a supplement of hymns (No. 46*b*). See the Journal, January 15th and 27th, February 8th, May 3rd and 20th, June 30th, July 14th, and August 4th and 8th. The book was not completed until 1842. See No. 70, below.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 320, where he notes that in the Boston Athenaeum copy which he saw the text ends abruptly in an incompleted word in the 19th verse of the 17th chapter.

Boston Athenaeum.

Nikimoani. [Shawanoe Mission, J. Meeker, Printer, 1836.] [46*b*]

10 x 16 cm. 16 p.

Caption title; no separate title page.

Hymns, entirely in the Shawnee language. Not known separately, but only as appended to the Gospel according to Saint Matthew (No. 46*a*). Two forms were printed, 650 copies of the first and 666 copies of the second (Meeker Journal, May 10 and June 29, 1836).

The Boston Athenaeum copy of No. 46 contains Hymns 1-17 and 2 verses of Hymn 18 (16 pages), instead of the 22 hymns called for by the Meeker Journal for July 14, 1836.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 320.

Boston Athenaeum.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [47]

Shawanoe Sun, ninth issue, for July, 1836. Meeker Journal, July 12, 1836.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [48]

Shawanoe Sun, tenth issue, for August, 1836. Meeker Journal August 27, 1836.

[Association minutes] [49]

Probably the minutes of a meeting of a local Baptist Association. The only such meeting mentioned in the Journal, however, is that of September 25-28, 1835. 450 copies. Meeker Journal, November 18, 1836.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [50]

Shawanoe Sun, eleventh issue, for November, 1836. Meeker Journal, November 22, 1836.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [51]

Shawanoe Sun, twelfth issue, for January, 1837. 100 copies. Meeker Journal, January 10, 1837.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [52]

Shawanoe Sun, thirteenth issue, for February, 1837. Meeker Journal, February 2, 1837.

Wdkuntl eeifa, | Cesus Kryst | wdwdklha atva, | wdhseka ukewyglhce atvakineitlnl | wowdkowika. | [*Filet*] | marin | wdtotl wdkwnga atva. | 1837. [53]

11 x 17 cm. 32 p. Printed paper covers.

Cover title: The history | of | our Lord and Saviour | Jesus Christ; | comprehending all that the | four evangelists | have recorded concerning him; | all their relations being brought together in one | narrative, so that no circumstance is omitted, but | that inestimable history is continued in one series, | in the very words of Scripture, | by the Rev. Samuel Lieberkuhn, M.A. | [*Filet*] Translated into the | language of the | Otoe, Ioway, and Missouri | tribes of Indians. | By Moses Merrill, | Missionary of the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions. | Assisted by Louis Dorion, interpreter. | [*Filet*] | Part I. | [*Filet*] | J. Meeker, Printer, Shawanoe Baptist Mission. | 1837.

500 copies, 2 forms. Referred to in the Journal as the "Harmony of the Gospels" in Otoe. Meeker Journal, April 1, 1837.

Pilling, *Siouan Languages*, p. 51 (titles from Rev. Samuel P. Merril, Rochester, New York, a son of the missionary).

Kansas State Historical Society, Library of Congress, Henry E. Huntington Library, and Colgate-Rochester Divinity School Library have reprint published by S. P. Merrill, Rochester, 1888.

["Harmony of the Gospels" in Otoe, "altered" for the Presbyterian Iowa Mission] [54]

100 copies, 2 forms (32 pages). Meeker Journal, March 18 and April 1, 1837.

The alterations were probably in typography rather than in text. See note on No. 38, above.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [55]

Shawanoe Sun, fourteenth issue, for April, 1837. This is the last issue of this publication mentioned in the Journal. Meeker Journal, April 14, 1837.

Gratuitous. | [*Rule*] | Periodical Account | of | Baptist Missions | within | the Indian Territory, | for the year ending December 31, 1836. | [*Filet*] | Published by Isaac M'Coy. | Shawanoe Baptist Mission House, Indian Territory. | [*Rule*] | [*2-line quotation*] | [*Rule*] | No. 1. [*Double rule*] | Contents | [*34 lines of contents, in 2 columns*] | [*Ornament*] | 1837. [56]

13.5 x 23.5 cm. 52 p. Printed paper covers.

Cover title, in rule border. At bottom, below the border: "This periodical contains 2½ sheets—Postage under 100 miles is 3¾ cts. over 100 6¼."

Printed by Jotham Meeker on May 5th and 12th, 1837 (Meeker Journal). Quantity not mentioned. On June 5th, Meeker notes that he settled with "Br. M'Coy for printing the 'Periodical Account'."

THE HISTORY

OF

OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR

JESUS CHRIST;

COMPREHENDING ALL THAT THE

FOUR EVANGELISTS

HAVE RECORDED CONCERNING HIM;

ALL THEIR RELATIONS BEING BROUGHT TOGETHER IN ONE NARRATIVE, SO THAT NO CIRCUMSTANCE IS OMITTED, BUT THAT INESTIMABLE HISTORY IS CONTINUED IN ONE SERIES. IN THE VERY WORDS OF SCRIPTURE, BY THE REV. SAMUEL LEIBERKUHN, M. A.

TRANSLATED INTO THE

DELAWARE LANGUAGE, IN 1806.

BY REV. DAVID ZEISBERGER,

Missionary of the United Brethren.

RE-TRANSLATED, SO AS TO CONFORM TO THE PRESENT IDIOM OF THE LANGUAGE,

BY I. D. BLANCHARD.

J. Meeker, Printer, Shawanoe Baptist Mission

1837

English title page of the "Harmony of the Gospels" in the Delaware language, the last book undertaken by Meeker at the Shawnoe Mission before his departure for Ottawa. See No. 57 in the Bibliography.

"In the fore part of June [1837], I put in circulation a pamphlet of fifty-two pages, entitled 'Periodical Account of Baptist Missions in the Indian Territory.' This was printed on our press at the Shawanoe mission, at my own cost. It was circulated gratuitously in the different States in the Union, and was designed to supply, in some measure, the information which the public, and the Baptist denomination in particular, needed, respecting the condition of missionary affairs." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, pp. 519-520.)

Henry E Huntington Library. New York Historical Society. Boston Athenaeum.

The History | of | our Lord and Saviour | Jesus Christ; | comprehending all that the | four evangelists | have recorded concerning him; | all their relations being brought together in one | narrative, so that no circumstance is omitted, but | that inestimable history is continued in one series, | in the very words of Scripture, by the Rev. Samuel | Lieberkuhn, M.A. | [*Filet*] | Translated into the | Delaware language, in 1806, | by Rev. David Zeisberger, | Missionary of the United Brethren. | [*Filet*] | Re-translated, so as to conform to the present | idiom of the language, | by I. D. Blanchard. | [*Filet*] | J. Meeker, Printer, Shawanoe Baptist Mission. | 1837. [57]

10 x 16.5 cm. 221 p.

On page [3]: Rlathemwakunek | wtclawswakun | nrvlalkwf krthwvalkwf | Nhesus Klyst; | cntu | jijwanukif wuntunasw | cntu | linexsif tclextwnrw | mplcnhes. | Nhime tcli wehwmat. | [*Filet*] | Jawanouf, | tali kejetwn. | 1837.

See cover title of No. 53.

Meeker Journal, February 6 and 22, and May 10, 1837. The Journal mentions the printing of two forms only. Pratt printed four more, making in all 96 pages printed in 1837. Meeker printed 800 copies of his two forms, but the rest of the edition was 500. See *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol.

RLATHEMWAKUNEK

WTCLAWSWAKUN

NRVLALKWF KRTHWVALKWF

NHESUS KLYST;

CNTU

JIJWANUKIF WUNTUNASW

CNTU

LINEXSIF TCLEXTWNRW

MPLCNHES.

NHIME TCLI WEHWMAT.

JAWANOUF.

TALI KEJETWN.

1837.

Title page in the Delaware language of the Delaware "Harmony of the Gospels." No. 57 in the Bibliography.

18, 1838, p. 138. By December, 1838, 32 pages had been added, and the book of 128 pages was in circulation "in pamphlet form" (*id.*, Vol. 19, 1839, p. 90). By March 20, 1839, 48 more pages had been printed, bringing the total up to 176 pages (*id.*, Vol. 19, pp. 125, 126, 254-255). Before Pratt left Shawanoe in the autumn of 1839, the completion of the "Delaware Harmony" had been reported (*id.*, Vol. 20, 1840, p. 126).

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 547.

New York Public Library. Kansas State Historical Society (4 copies).

The | Annual Register | of | Indian Affairs | within | the Indian (or Western) Territory. | [*Rule*] | Published by Isaac M'Coy. | [*Rule*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission House, Indian Territory, | May, 1837. | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission, Ind. Ter. | J. G. Pratt, Printer. | 1837. [58]

14 x 23 cm. 81 p. Printed paper covers.

Title and front cover headed in upper right corner "No. 3."

J. G. Pratt, the newly appointed successor to Jotham Meeker as printer at the Shawanoe Baptist Mission, arrived with his wife on May 11, 1837. This is the first known issue of the Shawanoe Mission Press to bear his imprint. The edition was 1,500 copies (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 18, 1838, p. 138).

"About the 1st of July, 1837, the third number of the Annual Register of Indian Affairs was issued." (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, p. 524.)

No more issues of the *Annual Register* were published at the Shawanoe Mission: "I could not conveniently get the fourth number of the Annual Register printed at our office at the Shawanoe station, and the work was executed in Washington [by Peter Force], which made its distribution in various parts of the United States convenient. It was published at my own cost, and, like all the preceding numbers, issued gratuitously." (McCoy, *op. cit.*, pp. 555-556.)

WA FA FE

WA GRY SY

LAEKENS

WA KAXA PEO.

SHAWANOE MISSION,

J. G. PRATT, PRINTER.

1837.

Title page of the rare Osage language primer printed at the Shawnoe Mission by J. G. Pratt in 1837. Except for No. 3 of the *Annual Register*, this is the first work that bears Pratt's imprint. See No. 59 in the Bibliography.

Henry E. Huntington Library. Kansas State Historical Society. Newberry Library (Ayer Collection). Library of Congress. New York Historical Society. Missouri Historical Society. Robert M. Snyder, Jr.

Wa fa fe | wa gry sy | Laekens | wa kaxa peo. | [*Filet*] | Shawanoe Mission, | J. G. Pratt, Printer. | 1837. [59]

11 x 16.5 cm. [1-3], 4-24 p. Gray paper covers.

Written on the title page of one of the Kansas State Historical Society copies: "Wasashshe Book Lykens he-made-it." Contains Osage alphabet, syllabary, lessons (in Osage and English), the ten commandments, and selected stories from the New Testament.

The edition was 500 copies (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 18, 1838, p. 138).

Not in Pilling, *Siouan Languages*, although mentioned (with title) in *Algonquian Languages*, p. 356.

Kansas State Historical Society (2 copies).

Ottawa | First Book. | Prepared by | Jotham Meeker, | Missionary of Am. Bap. Bd For. Mis. | Shawanoe Mission, | J. G. Pratt, Printer. | 1838. [60]

9.2 x 12.8 cm. 24 p.

On verso of title page, Key to the Ottawa Alphabet. Primer lessons, pp. 3-13; rest of text entirely in Ottawa (prayers, pp. 13-19, hymns, pp. 20-23, numerals, p. 24).

Although the imprint is "J. G. Pratt," much of the work on this book was done by Meeker himself, who came from Ottawa to the Shawanoe Mission for the purpose. See the Journal, February 8 to 14, 1838. Meeker printed 60 copies only of 2 forms (February 14th), leaving the rest of the press-work to Pratt. The edition was 400 copies (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 18, 1838, p. 138). The book was delivered in sheets, and from time to time Meeker bound up copies as needed. Including the 60 copies first printed, Meeker mentions making up 224 copies in all. See the

Journal, February 19 to 21, 1838; May 23, 1840; January 1 and October 24, 1843; and December 17, 1844. The book had been out of print "for over a year" before February 8, 1848.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 350.

Boston Athenaeum.

Siwinowe | eawekitake. | Liekens | Wastoti. | [*Rule*] | [*2 lines in Shawnee*] | [*Rule*] | Shawanoe Mission, J. G. Pratt, Printer. | 1838. [61]

9.5 x 14.5 cm. 24 p.

On verso of title page, Key to the Shawannoe Characters. Text in Shawnee: Primer lessons, pp. 3-12; texts (all in Shawnee), pp. 13-24.

The edition was 500 copies (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 18, 1838, p. 138).

See No. 13, above.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 320.

Boston Athenaeum.

[Delaware Hymns. New edition. Shawanoe: J. G. Pratt, 1838.] [62]

24mo. 48 p.

By Ira D. Blanchard. This enlarged edition (400 copies, printed in September, 1838) contained 44 hymns.

Known only from *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 19, pp. 90 and 125.

See No. 45, above.

[Kauzas Book. Shawanoe: J. G. Pratt, *ca.* 1838.] [63]

12mo. 24 p.

In the Kauzas (Kansas, or Kaw) language; 300 copies were printed in 1838 or 1839 for the Methodist mission.

Known only from *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 19, 1839, p. 125, and from mention (without title or description) in Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 356.

[Epistles of John, in Delaware. Shawanoe: J. G. Pratt, 1839.] [64]

12mo. 32 p.

For the Methodist Mission; 500 copies printed by Pratt before he left Shawanoe in the autumn of 1839.

Known only from a brief report of the Shawanoe Mission in *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 20, 1840, p. 126.

[Ottawa Hymn Book. Shawanoe: J. Meeker, 1839] [65]

Compiled, translated, and printed by Meeker, Pratt being absent on sick leave. 100 (or more?) copies, 1 form and cover (Meeker Journal, November 11 and 12, 1839). The edition was taken in sheets, and from time to time Meeker bound up copies as needed. In all, he mentions making up 122 copies (Journal, May 30 and September 28, 1840; June 18 and September 29, 1841; and February 26, 1842).

Siwinowe | Kesibwi | [*Double rule*] | Palako wahostota nakote kesibo.—Wiselibi, 1841 | [*Rule*] | J. Lykins, Editor. November, 1841. Baptist Mission Press. [66]

Shawanoe Sun, issue of November, 1841. Title from a facsimile of the first page published in the Kansas City (Kansas) *Sun*, Friday, February 18, 1898, copies of which reproduction are in the library of the Kansas State Historical Society. The copy from which the reproduction was made is said to have been given by Charles Bluejacket, a Shawnee chief, to the Wyandotte County (Kansas) Historical Society, but it cannot now be located there.

The publication of this little paper was suspended in 1839, in the absence of J. G. Pratt, the Mission's printer (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, pp. 566 and 567). This is the first definite record of it since the last issue which Meeker printed, in April, 1837 (No. 55, above).

The | New Testament | of | our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; | translated into the Ottawa language |

by | Jotham Meeker, | Missionary of the Amer. Bap. Board of For. Missions. | Carefully revised, and compared with the Greek, | by | Rev. Francis Barker, A.M. | Baptist Missionary to the Shawanoes. | [*Rule*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission Press, | J. G. Pratt, Printer. | 1841. [67]

10 x 16 cm. 125 p.

On verso of title page: Me su mantu | katepahimint kuer kailihekrt | kapekrskoninuf | Hesus Knrst. | Hihak kuer lafwal, | me kaanekunotakr olepeikrhik. | [*Rule*] | Lawunonaf ketuli olepeikatr. | Kauko tukwilif Hesus | mantu minik tso pepon. | 1841.

Text entirely in Ottawa; contains only the Gospel of Matthew. Based on "Dr. James's Ojibwa version of the New Testament" (*Baptist Missionary Magazine,* Vol. 17, 1837, p. 127). The Edwin James version was published at Albany in 1833.

8 forms. Meeker Journal, August 12 to December 22, 1841. Most of the work was done by Meeker, although the book bears Pratt's imprint.

Meeker does not mention the number of copies, but 500 is the edition as reported in *Baptist Missionary Magazine,* Vol. 22, 1842, p. 161.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages,* p. 351.

Henry E. Huntington Library. Boston Athenaeum.

[Second Ottawa Hymn Book] [68]

See Meeker Journal, April 4, 1842. As Meeker makes no reference to this work beyond the statement that he "read the proof sheet of the second form," its eventual publication can only be assumed.

[Siwinowe Kesibwi] [69]

Shawanoe Sun, issue for May, 1842. Mentioned in Johnston Lykin's memorandum book (MS, in the library of the Kansas State Historical Society): "Tuesday, May 17, 1842. Rode to printing office to make enquiries respecting the Shawnee Sun—found it in type."

The | Gospel | according to | Saint Matthew. | Translated | into the | Shawanoe language, | by | Johnston Lykins, | Missionary of the Amer. Bap. Bd. of For. Missions. | Aided in revising and comparing with the Greek, | by | James Andrew Chute, M.D. | [*Rule*] | Shawanoe Baptist Mission Press, | J. G. Pratt, Printer. | 1842 [70]

10 x 16 cm. 116 p.

On verso of title page: Owase | opeaticemowa | Ceses Kliest, | tapalamalikwa okwebile | Mabew | otiwekiti | [*Rule*] | Cinstin Liekins, | lieipiwekitiki. | [*Rule*] | Ealimapeaskiki, chena pinete, chena cose, | Nieitimiwicke, | 1842.

Composition on this book began January 13, 1836. On February 10th Meeker included it in his report to the Board of Missions as "a part of the gospel by Matthew, in Shawanoe, 32 pp., 500 copies" (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 16, 1836, p. 129). In the report of the following year (Vol. 17, 1837, p. 129) this is referred to as "an edition of the first nine chapters of Matthew translated by Mr. Lykins into Shawanoe."

In the winter of 1835-1836, Lykins fell ill with a "nervous affection of the head, occasioned, perhaps, by too close application to study" (McCoy, *History of Baptist Indian Missions*, p. 504). He and his wife went home to Indiana in 1836 and did not return to Shawanoe until May, 1837. In the mean time, the translation of Matthew into Shawnee was carried forward by Meeker and David B. Rollin. But no more of the translation was printed for several years.

On June 30, 1836, Meeker made up 33 copies of the "Shawanoe Scripture & Hymn Books," and 50 copies "containing about one third of Matthew and 22 hymns and other matter" were put together, covered, trimmed, and made ready for delivery on July 14th and August 4th and 8th. This edition, issued with the 1836 title page (see No. 46*a*, above), contained but 32 pages of Matthew and 16 of hymns.

"No progress has been made in the printing of Matthew in Shawanoe," the report for 1837-1838 states. "But the 9½

OWASE

OPEATICEMOWA

CESES KLIEST,

TAPALAMALIKWA OKWEBILE

MABEW

OTIWEKITI

CINSTIN LIEKINS,

LIEIPIWEKITIKI.

EALIMAPEASKIKI, CHENA PINETE, CHENA COSE,

Nieltimotwicke.

1842

Indian title page of a Shawnee book printed by Pratt in 1842, but begun by Meeker in 1836. See No. 70 in the Bibliography.

chapters already printed, with 14 hymns appended, have been placed in the hands of the Shawanoes, and are well understood" (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 18, 1838, p. 138). Not until 1839 was more printed. "A continuation of Matthew in Shawanoe, 32 pp., 16mo, 500 copies," printed by Pratt (*id.*, Vol. 20, 1840, p. 126), was probably added to the 32 pages of 1836 and issued with the title page of that year. In 1842 the work was finally completed and issued with the title page given above. For this final edition, 48 pages were reprinted and the whole edition brought to 750 copies (*id.*, Vol. 22, 1842, p. 161).

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 320, under the 1836 title, notes that in the Boston Athenaeum copy the gospel ends in the middle of the 19th verse of the 17th chapter, with part of a word. This was probably a copy of the book as it stood after the 32-page addition in 1839.

See No. 46*a*, above.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 321. There was a later edition from the press of William C. Buck, Louisville, Ky., in 1844.

New York Public Library. Library of Congress.

Original | and | select hymns, | in the Shawanoe language. | By | missionaries of the Amer. Baptist Board | of Foreign Missions. | [*2-line English quotation*] | Second edition. | Shawanoe Baptist Mission Press, | J. G. Pratt, Printer. | 1842 [71]

Square 16mo. 48 p. Printed paper covers.

Cover title same as above. On verso of title page: Nikimowani | Siwinwike ealitowawice | wastowice | paptesewe mkitawkolieake, | chena kotikike. | [*3-line quotation in Shawnee*] | Ealimapeaskiki | lieipicemoti. | 1842. The Shawnee title is repeated on the back cover. Text entirely in Shawnee.

See No. 46*b*, above. The "first edition" is not known.

This may be the book referred to in Johnston Lykin's memorandum book (MS, Kansas State Historical Society): [February 5, 1842] "This past week have been wholly engaged

on Put[awatomie] trans. except 2 rides to printing office on account of Hymn book in Shawnee. This book is original and compiled. Monday [February 7] received the proof sheet of my hymns & learned that objections were made to its bearing my name on title page. Poor little name! Poor human nature! Thursday [February 17]. Translating. Hymn book still standing in type & paper wet down for it, perhaps dried. Tuesday [February 22] . . . . Had an interview with Brethren Barker & Pratte [*sic*] on the subject of my Hymns in Shawnee which have been standing 2 weeks in Type—with proof read. The interview was unpleasant—such as to increase my fears [? *illegible*] of human nature."

The edition was 500 copies (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 23, 1843, p. 139).

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 321.

Library of Congress(?)

The | Delaware First Book, | prepared | by | Ira D. Blanchard. | Second Edition. | Shawanoe Baptist Mission Press, | J. G. Pratt, Printer. | 1842 [72]

16mo. 24 p.

On verso of title page: Lunapre | lrkvekun, | nrtamexif. | Mplcnhes | ok | halus, | tolrkvonro. On page 3, key to the Delaware alphabet.

The edition was 500 copies (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 22, 1842, p. 161).

See No. 4, above.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 51.

Watkinson Library, Hartford, Conn. (James Hammond Trumbull copy).

[The Gospel According to Matthew, translated into the Putawatomie language by Johnston Lykins. Shawwanoe: J. G. Pratt, *ca.* 1843.] [73]

16mo. 125 p.

Edition of 500 copies printed by Pratt in 1842 or 1843 (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 23, 1843, p. 139).

Presumably by Lykins, who, according to his memorandum book (MS, Kansas State Historical Society), was already engaged in a Potawatomie translation in February, 1842. Meeker assisted in the translation; see his Journal for August, 1842.

Not in Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, but the *Gospel According to Matthew and the Acts of the Apostles*, in Potawatomie, by Lykins (Louisville: William C. Buck, 1844), is listed therein on p. 321.

Original | and | select hymns, | in | the Ottawa language. | By | Jotham Meeker, | Missionary of the Amer. Baptist Board | of Foreign Missions. | [*Rule*] | [*2-line English quotation*] | [*Rule*] | Press of Amer. Baptist Board of For. | Missions, Shawanoe, Ind. Ter. | 1845. [74]

7 x 13 cm. 96 p.

500 copies, 82 hymns (Meeker Journal, November 1, 1844). Meeker did some of the composition and presswork (Journal, October 13 to November 1, 1844).

Possibly the hymns listed above as No. 68 are here included.

Text entirely in Ottawa except the headings, which are in English; index (in Ottawa), pp. 93-96.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 351.

Kansas State Historical Society. Boston Athenaeum.

The | Gospel | according to John, | translated into the Ottawa language | by | Jotham Meeker, | Missionary of the Amer. Bap. Board of For. Missions. | Revised, and compared with the Greek, | by | Rev. Francis Barker, A.M. | Baptist Missionary to the Shawanoes. | [*Rule*] | Press of Amer. Baptist Board of For. Missions, | Shawanoe. | 1844. [75]

10 x 16 cm. 98 p.

Text entirely in Ottawa. See note on No. 67, above.

The translation was begun by Meeker on July 27, 1843, and completed February 16, 1844. The proof revision was finished April 13, 1844. The printing was finished at Stockbridge after the press had been removed there in 1846 (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 27, 1847, p. 260). There is no record of the quantity.

At least 50 copies were bound with the Gospel of Matthew (No. 67, above; Meeker Journal, April 9, 1846).

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 351.

Henry E. Huntington Library. Boston Athenaeum. Library of Congress.

Translation | of | John's Gospel, | from | the original Greek. | E | Editionibus | Greenfield et Bloomfield, | by | Francis Barker, | Missionary of the Amer. Bap. Bd. of Foreign Missions. | [*Rule*] | Press of Am. Baptist Bd. of For. Missions, | Stockbridge, Ind. Ter. | 1846. [76]

10.5 x 16.5 cm. 90 p.

Shawnee title on third page: Owase | opeaticemowa. | Ceses Kliest, | tapalamalikwa okwebile, | John. | Otiwekiti | Francis Barker, | lieipiwekitiki | kiliweheki, chena pinete, chena cose | Nieitimiwicke. | 1846.

"The press was removed to Stockbridge about a year ago [spring of 1846 ?]; since which time Mr. Pratt has printed the gospel by John in Shawanoe and a new edition of part of the Shawanoe hymn book..." (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 27, No. 7, July, 1847, p. 260).

Kansas State Historical Society.

[Shawanoe Hymn Book. New edition. Stockbridge: *ca.* 1846] [77]

The earlier edition was probably No. 71.

[Delaware and Ojibwa hymns. Stockbridge: J. G. Pratt, *ca.* 1846.] [78]

For the Methodist Mission.

"The press was removed to Stockbridge about a year ago [summer of 1846?]; since which time Mr. Pratt has printed . . . a book of hymns in Delaware and Ojibwa for the Methodist Mission" (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 27, 1847, p. 260). There is no mention of the quantity printed or of the number of pages.

The | Christian Professor's | Assistant, | to which is added | Declaration of Faith. | and | Covenant, | of the | Baptist Mission Church, | Delaware, | Indian Territory. | [*Rule*] | Press of Am. Baptist Missionary Union, | Stockbridge, Ind. Ter. | 1848. [79]

11.5 x 16.5 cm. 32 p.

"[Mr. Pratt] has now in preparation a book in English for the Stockbridges, in connection with a 'Declaration of Faith' as prepared by the New Hampshire Baptist State Convention" (*Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Vol. 27, No. 7, July, 1847, p. 260).

Kansas State Historical Society.

Hymns | in | the Ottawa language, | original and select, | by | Jotham Meeker, | Missionary of the American Baptist Mis. Union. | Third edition. | [*2-line English quotation*] | Ottawa Baptist Mission Station. | J. Meeker, Printer. | 1850. [80]

24mo. 127 p.

Text entirely in Ottawa except the headings, which are in English; index, pp. 123-127.

Caption title on p. [3]: Nukumowinun | Waweenuf Kelrmuneto.

500 copies, 4 forms, 111 hymns. Meeker Journal, July 31, August 15 and 20, 1850.

The Baptist Mission press was brought from Stockbridge to Ottawa in the summer of 1849 (Journal, March 7, 1849) and Meeker became again the sole printer.

The "second edition" is probably No. 74, above. No. 65 is the first edition.

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 352.

Georgetown University Library.

OTTAWA

FIRST BOOK.

CONTAINING

LESSONS FOR THE LEARNER;

PORTIONS OF

THE GOSPEL BY LUKE,

OMITTED BY

MATTHEW AND JOHN;

AND

THE OTTAWA LAWS.

BY

JOTHAM MEEKER,

MISSIONARY OF

THE AMER. BAP. MIS. UNION.

Second Edition.

Ottawa Baptist Mission Station.

J. Meeker, Printer,

1850.

Title page of Meeker's last book of which a copy survives, printed at Ottawa in 1850. See No. 81 in the Bibliography.

Ottawa | first book. | Containing | lessons for the learner; | portions of | the Gospel by Luke, | omitted by | Matthew and John; | and | the Ottawa Laws. | By | Jotham Meeker, | Missionary of | the Amer. Bap. Mis. Union. | [*Rule*] | Second Edition. | [*Rule*] | Ottawa Baptist Mission Station. | J. Meeker, Printer, | 1850. [81]

7.5 x 12 cm. (trimmed close, top and outer margins). 128 p.

On verso of title page, Key to the Ottawa Alphabet. Page [3]: Otawa | musenaikun. | Eue ko | wlki ukenoumatewin; | kuer anint | ominwahimowin nok, | kapwa olepeumowat | Mrto kuer Han; | kuer Otawak | otepakonikrwiniwan. | Uwi tul | wrltot uhihak, | rnonikohin | kehimokomanewe prptisun. | Nalif Wrlhikatrk. | Otawa Prptise Kukekwrwikumikof. | Uhihak, Mrsenaikunikrt, | 1850.

Primer lessons, pp. 4-12; Gospel of Luke, in part, pp. 13-98; United States Whiskey Laws (in Ottawa), pp. 99-101; Ottawa Laws (alternate pages in English and Ottawa), pp. 102-125; numerals, etc., pp. 126-128.

See Meeker Journal, February 8, 1848, November 24, 1849; 500 copies, 4 forms (Journal, March 8 to June 18, 1850).

Pilling, *Algonquian Languages*, p. 350

Kansas State Historical Society. New York Public Library. Boston Athenaeum.

[Three hymns] [82]

75 copies printed. Meeker Journal, July 2, 1850.

[Ottawa Almanac for 1851] [83]

"About 40 copies." Meeker Journal, January 8, 1851.

[Shawanoe Almanac for 1851] [84]

"About 40" copies. Meeker Journal, January 9, 1851.

[Delaware Almanac for 1851] [85]

"About 40" copies. Meeker Journal, January 9, 1851.

[English Almanac for 1851] [86]

60 copies. Meeker Journal, January 9, 1851.

[Ottawa Treaties] [87]

Translated into Ottawa by Jotham Meeker. 50 copies (of which 20 were bound), 15 pages. Meeker Journal, July 7 and 8, 1853.

[Cards for Miss Morse's School] [88]

Meeker Journal, July 9, 1853.

[Shawanoe Hymn Book] [89]

Two forms were in type on August 18, 1854. The book was probably never printed. See Meeker Journal, note on September 5, 1854.

[redacted]
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